

BAMA

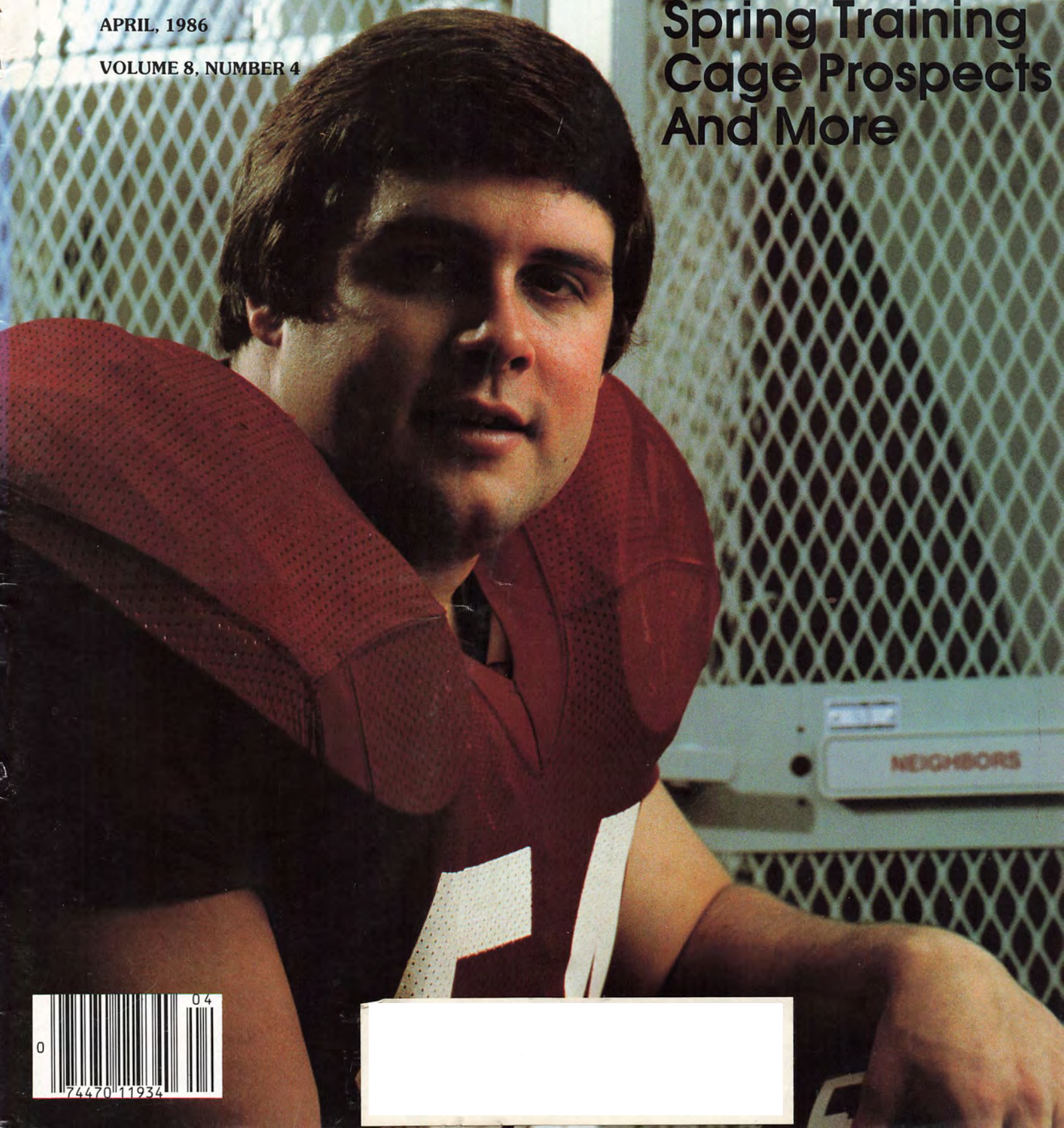
INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

APRIL, 1986

VOLUME 8, NUMBER 4

Inside:

Wes Neighbors
Spring Training
Cage Prospects
And More



BAMA'S

1985

Best

Relive every exciting moment of 1985 Alabama football in this official University of Alabama highlight videotape. Action begins with the game that gave the Crimson Tide momentum for this season—the exciting 17-15 victory over Auburn to end the 1984 year—and continues through this bowl season.

This 30-minute, high-quality videotape will include the most memorable action plays of the year as well as special player interviews and behind-the-scenes looks at the Crimson Tide. You will also be treated to a tour of the new football facilities, including the indoor practice field.

Be sure to order this first in a collector's series.



ONLY \$34.95

An exclusive presentation of The University of Alabama Athletics Department

Send Orders To: **TIDE TAPE**
P.O. Box K
University, AL 35486

☐ VHS ☐ BETA

☐ Check ☐ Money Order
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card No. _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

Enclose \$34.95 Per Tape PLUS \$2 shipping and handling. Alabama residents MUST include \$1.40 sales tax. (Total cost to Alabama residents \$38.35 per tape.)

'BAMA

INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

APRIL, 1986

VOLUME 8, NUMBER 4

CONTENTS

On The Cover: Wes Neighbors has enjoyed great team success and received numerous individual honors in his first three years as Alabama's center, but he's looking forward to the 1986 season as the Crimson Tide's opportunity to rejoin the nation's football elite. See Page 16.

Barry Fikes Photo



Page 5

Spring Training:

Manning The Middle

Everyone knows that Alabama's primary concern in preparing for 1986 is the defensive line. Mike Dubose is charged with developing replacements at both tackle spots this spring.

5

by Kirk McNair

Offseason Work:

A Two-Pronged Goal

Kent Johnston, Alabama's strength coach, puts Crimson Tide football players through a rigorous offseason program of conditioning and weightlifting. In addition to making players quicker and stronger, he wants them mentally tougher.

12

by Kirk McNair

Meet The Staff:

Smith Thinking National Title

Alabama's new secondary coach, Rick Smith, has a solid background of success as a player, high school coach and college coach. He has joined the Bama family from Georgia Tech with a goal of being part of a national championship team.

14

by Donald F. Staffo

Wes Neighbors:

Looking To 1986

Alabama center Wes Neighbors has been a part of big wins and has earned All-America honors and he should have an opportunity to continue his football career with the pros. But for now he's thinking only of the upcoming Crimson Tide season.

16

by Kirk McNair

Prep Prospects:

Basketball Looks Nationwide

Alabama's basketball success over the years has been achieved primarily with homegrown talent, but this year the Tide seems to be looking far and wide for new players. Here's a look at some who have been linked with Bama.

20

by Kirk McNair

Women's Athletics:

Hoping To Build On Success

Coach John Mitchell's women's track and field team surprised everyone by following its SEC indoor championship with the national title. He hopes the trend of the outdoors team being better than the indoors team continues.

23

by Lisa Dickerson

History Of Alabama Athletics:

Johnson Was High Flyer

Jan Johnson was one of the world's top pole vaulters as a Crimson Tider and went on to earn a bronze medal in the 1972 Olympics despite a political decision that cost him the use of his pole. He has stayed close to the sport.

24

by Tommy Deas

April 1 Announcement:

Charles Joins Tide Staff

A fund raising effort by Ray Perkins results in Bama adding a new coach and a new sport.

30

The Departments

Football Roster	10
Scorecard	26
Spring Schedules	29



Page 30

**Be There
When
'Bama
Kicks Off**



In The 1986 Kickoff Classic

**We Have Packages For
Everyone!**

August 26-30

2, 3, 4 and 5 night packages available

**Packages include round trip air, ground
transportation, hotel accommodations**

To The Meadowlands

Sheraton Heights

Quality Inn

To New York

**Hilton
Essex House**

**Milford Plaza
Madison Towers**

To Atlantic City

Tropicana

Write or Call for Free Brochure

Robertson Travel Post, Inc.

**2732 Cahaba Road
Mountain Brook, Alabama 35253
(205) 879-0461
In Alabama, 1-800-228-9109**



P.O. Box 6104
University, AL 35486-6104
AC 205 345-5074

Editorial & Staff Directory

Publisher: Lynne McNair

Editor: Kirk McNair

Contributing Writers: John Aiello, Barry Allen, Charles Callaghan, Al Browning, Tommy Deas, Lisa Dickerson, Brian Gordon, Bruce Graham, Chris Roberts, Donald F. Staffo, Ray Perkins

Photo Editor: Barry Fikes

Contributing Photographers: Scott Dulaney, Frank Morgan, Debby Rowland, Spectrum-Southeast, University of Alabama, Doug Williams

Artist: Dan Proctor

Circulation Director: Mary Ellen Palardy

Promotions Director: Mort Jordan

Advertising Director: Mary Kathryn Kubiszyn

Publisher's Assistant: Vera Dowdle

Circulation Assistant: Dorothy Stock

Publishing Information

'BAMA Inside The Crimson Tide (USPS 489-470; ISSN 0195-0975) is published monthly for ten months from August to May by College Sports Publications, Inc., 408 20th Ave., Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 35401. Editorial office is located at 408 20th Ave., Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 35401.

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to 'BAMA Inside the Crimson Tide, P.O. Box 6104, University, Alabama 35486-6104.

Second class postage paid at Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and at additional mailing office. Subscription rate is \$30.00 per year. Foreign subscriptions \$5.00 per additional. Change of address: Six weeks advance notice, and old address as well as new required. Address all correspondence to: Post Office Box 6104, University, Alabama 35486-6104. Not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts or photographs unless accompanied by return postage. Copyright © 1986 College Sports Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited.

A MEMBER OF



'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/APRIL '86

Manning The Middle

by Kirk McNair

Mike Dubose searches for replacements at defensive tackle

One of the most impressive looking football players at Alabama's first spring practice was a 6-7, 275-pound defensive tack-

kle. Unfortunately for Alabama, Jon Hand was just out watching his former teammates as they began the job of getting ready for the 1986 season. Hand will almost certainly be toiling away in the National Football League next fall when Alabama is trying to stop the likes of Ohio State, Florida, Notre Dame, et al.

Last season Alabama Assistant Coach Mike Dubose had the pleasant task of coaching one of the finest defensive fronts in the

nation, an experienced group that included Hand at left tackle, Curt Jarvis at noseguard, and Brent Sowell and Larry Roberts alternating at right tackle. This year he has the difficult job of replacing Hand, Sowell and Roberts.

"I almost started crying when I saw Big Jon walk out there," said Dubose of the practice visit by Hand. But he's not crying about the men he has working to replace them. He thinks he's got some football players.

In order to fill the gaps, Dubose has moved some up and moved one out. Moving up are 1985 backup performers, senior Derrick Slaughter at left tackle and sophomore Willie Ryles on the right side. Right behind them in early work are left tackle Anthony Smith, a noseguard last year as a freshman, and Darryl "Quake" Whetstone, a former linebacker, on the right. Also working at tackle spots are redshirted freshman Bennie Atkinson, former linebacker Venson Elder and walkon Steve Turner.

There are some incoming freshmen—Byron Holdbrooks, Greg Kiker, David Lenoir, Trent Patterson, Kevin Penny, Glenn Watts



Derrick Slaughter (65) is considered short for a defensive tackle, but his position coach, Mike Dubose, has no worries that the upcoming senior can be a winning football player.

Barry Fikes Photo



Willie Ryles (93) made a big jump from his freshman season to his first spring training. In 1985 he was Bama's third team defensive right tackle. With the graduations of Brent Sowell and Larry Roberts Ryles is now number one.

Barry Fikes Photo

and Willie Wyatt—who are projected as defensive linemen, but as Bama Head Coach Ray Perkins said, "When we're getting ready to play Ohio State people won't be talking about the group we signed; they'll be talking about the ones who went through spring training." Bama may get some help at defensive line spots from the freshmen (as the Tide did last year), but it is not practical to count on inexperienced players.

Last year's senior tackle group turned in 165 tackles (including six quarterback sacks and 10 others for lost yardage), blocked two kicks, caused three fumbles, recovered one fumble, broke up five passes and even intercepted a pass. The upcoming replacements were led statistically by Slaughter, who was in on 17 tackles (one for a loss) and recovered a fumble. Smith was in on 15 tackles, had two sacks and broke up one pass. Ryles was in on 11 tackles, including one sack. And Turner was in on one tackle. Whetstone saw action in a couple of games, but did not make any tackles. Elder missed the season with injuries, the plague of college football career.

Actually, bare statistics don't tell the entire story of defensive line play. Inside linebacker Wayne Davis was far-and-away Alabama's leading tackler last year, getting in on 125 stops. However, he is quick to give credit to the men up front. "The reason I made all those tackles is Jon Hand, Curt Jarvis, Brent Sowell and Larry Roberts," he said. "You get those guys laying on people and it makes my job easy."

While there is a defensive theory of tackles keeping the blockers away from the linebackers, at Alabama it is not the function of defensive linemen to make it easy for the linebackers to make tackles. However, that is a byproduct in many cases. "The responsibility of a defensive tackle is to whip his blocker and go to the football," said Dubose. "If our tackles do that, it makes it easier for everyone on defense. But we want our linemen to be like linebackers in a three or four point stance; as soon as the football is snapped or the lineman across from him moves, we want our guy moving to the football."

That football will be in the hands of either

a runner or a passer. Defensive tackles have to be adept at reaching both. "You have to play the run and rush the passer," said Dubose. "I'd hate to say that one is more important than the other, but I believe that if you first take away the run, making them throw the football, pass rush becomes easier. If you know they are going to have to pass, you can pin your ears back on pass rush."

Alabama's defensive tackles will have to walk before they can run, and that means learning to beat the blockers. "When we've got men who can whip the blocker and run to the football, then we'll go to some twists and stunts, but our priority this spring has got to be one-on-one," said Dubose.

Derrick Slaughter's move up from backup to Hand to first team is one of his minor shifts, albeit one of his most important. The senior from Birmingham has been Alabama's travelin' man, coming as a linebacker, then going to fullback, then tight end, then offensive guard, then nose guard, and finally last fall to defensive tackle. "Leave out quarterback and defensive back and you've

'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/APRIL '86



Anthony Smith (94) was a backup noseguard as a freshman last season, but Alabama's need for defensive tackles has him being tried on the left side. He plans to gain about 15 pounds from his 245 pound weight before next season.

Barry Fikes Photo

got it," said Slaughter of the experiments.

Defensive tackles are ordinarily a bit taller than Slaughter. "I'd like to say I'm six feet (which is what he is listed in Alabama rosters), but they measured me on pro day (the day professional scouts get to time, measure and weigh upcoming senior football players) and it was 5-11," said Slaughter. He did managed to move the 265 pounds he carries on that frame 40 yards in under 4.8 seconds, which is a plus. Dubose agrees that Slaughter's height could be limiting on pass rush, but notes that "He's got natural leverage built in to get under the blocker, which is helpful in playing the run."

Slaughter also sees his strength as play against the run and expects to get plenty of work on pass rush techniques. "Nearly everyone I line up against will be taller than I am, so that means I have to work harder," he said. "My first step has got to be quick. I've got to have keen eyesight, because on the first twitch of the ball I've got to be moving."

He knows he and the other Alabama defensive tackles have big shoes to fill, but he's

also confident Crimson Tide defensive play can be good in 1986. "We've still got the linebackers and defensive backs we had last year, and it's not like we don't have any defensive linemen. I look at us as a family, and we're just going to have some different cousins playing."

Dubose is confident about Slaughter at left tackle. "Derrick is a better football player than most people give him credit for," said the coach. "He thinks he can line up and play in the SEC and I think he can line up in the SEC."

The leading candidate on the right side, Willie Ryles, has been at that spot since day one, but when he arrived there were two seasoned veterans in front of him. "I played enough to letter last year, but that's about all," said Ryles, a 6-4, 260-pound sophomore from Phenix City. "It was hard to get much playing time with Brent and Larry in front of me. I regarded it as a learning experience. I think it was an advantage to come in here and have two guys like that to help me along with techniques."

Ryles said his primary concern going into

spring training was strength. "I worked very hard in the offseason program to get stronger and I think it's coming," he said. From a technique standpoint, he considers himself to be better against the run than as a pass rusher. "I expect to get a lot of pass rush work this spring and I hope to be equal on both run and pass rush play; and I hope to be good on both."

It was something of a surprise to see Anthony Smith at left tackle. As a freshman last fall the 6-4, 245-pounder from Elizabeth City, North Carolina, was impressive at nose-guard, the position he had won all-star recognition for in high school. "The fact that Curt Jarvis has never missed a game with injury makes that a pretty safe position for us," said Perkins. "Plus, we feel Anthony is a little more suited to play tackle and that it will be a better position for him."

It was something of a surprise for Smith, too. He found out about it the day he reported for the first spring practice. And he seems pleased with the move. "You don't get double teamed as much (as at nose-



Darryl Whetstone (92, below) came to Alabama as a linebacker, but having beefed up to 255 he made the switch to defensive tackle late last fall.

Barry Fikes Photo

guard, where almost every play has the center and a guard blocking on him) and you have a chance to make more plays in the backfield," said Smith. "I'll play any position if it's going to help us be better."

Unlike the starters, Smith thinks that pass rush is his strong suit. He was often inserted into the Bama lineup last fall in passing situations. Although it is very difficult to get to the passer from the noseguard position, Smith's exceptional quickness (he was timed at 4.58 in the 40 last fall) allowed him to make two quarterback sacks and bat away one pass last year, and he often flushed the quarterback out of the pocket or caused a hurried pass. Smith may have made the most of his opportunities because he knew he wasn't going to be used on goalline situations. Last fall he was only 225. He built himself up to 245 in the offseason program and hopes to get bigger. "I plan to play at 260 next year, but I don't want to gain it too fast because it scares me to death to think about getting slow or sloppy." He plans to spend the entire summer in Tuscaloosa "to get better and get bigger."

Smith says his "mental toughness and tenacity" need improvement. "I think I've improved in that area, but I still don't have it—or haven't used it—to be a great football player." Keep an eye on this one.

Quake Whetstone came to Alabama in 1984 as a 6-2, 220-pound linebacker. Last fall they moved the 6-3, 255-pound red-shirted freshman to defensive tackle. He saw only limited action, playing in mopping up operations against Cincinnati and Mississippi State. Now he's listed as the number two man at right tackle.

Bennie Atkinson, a 6-4, 250-pounder, was impressive in early work at defensive tackle last fall, then had to under go an appendectomy, forcing a redshirt season.

Another whose practice time was limited in the fall (and through the offseason program) is Venson Elder. Once a fullback, then a linebacker, the 6-2 Elder is up to tackle size, 265. "He's out of shape coming off that knee injury, but Venson's got some ability and we hope he'll be able to help us there." There had been indications prior to spring training that Elder might be forced to give up football

because of his history of ailments.

There's one other man keeping his hand in defensive tackle work, noseguard Curt Jarvis. "To a degree, that puts him at a disadvantage," said Dubose, "but he's played all three positions in the past and he's got to be able to do that for us." The primary differences in noseguard and tackle play are 1.) things happen quicker at noseguard and 2.) the noseguard is almost always double teamed, while the tackle must make different reads on blocking schemes.

"It's always an advantage to play just one position," said Jarvis, a 6-1 1/2, 265-pound senior. He prefers noseguard "because I've played it all my life," but notes that "If I was interested in tackle statistics, I'd prefer tackle. At noseguard about the most I can do is keep people off our linebackers."

It is far more difficult to rush the passer from noseguard. "With guys like Jon Hand and Larry Roberts and Brent Sowell, my job was pretty much just to maintain position (on pass plays), watch for the draw, and go for the quarterback if the tackles flushed him.

'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/APRIL '86

With less experienced tackles, I'll be expected to be more involved in the pass rush."

Jarvis acknowledges his leadership responsibilities as the veteran of the front. "I put a lot of faith in Big Jon and now I'm sure the young ones are looking to me," he said. "They (Tide coaches) expect the young ones to mess up now and then, and they expect me not to mess up."

Jarvis is backed by 6-2, 244-pound sophomore Tommy Cole, 6-3, 240-pound red-shirted freshman Derrick Ruston, and 5-11, 235-pound sophomore walkon Darrell Martin. Cliff Thomas, a 6-2, 251-pound senior, is being held out of most spring work as he continues to recover from a knee injury suffered last spring.

Dubose is optimistic about Alabama's defensive front. "Basically, we're in overall good football conditioning because the off-season program was a success," he said. "Now, we're not ready to line up and play a football game; we've got a long way to go before that. But I'm confident we'll get there because we've got the kind of kids who are determined to get there."



Venson Elder (32) has had an injury-plagued career. The former fullback, then linebacker, is trying to make it through his senior year at defensive tackle. Barry Fikes Photo



Curt Jarvis is firmly established as an all-star caliber noseguard, but he's also seen spot duty at both tackle spots over the past couple of years. Alabama coaches hope to keep Jarvis in the middle this year, but he's still keeping a hand in at tackle. Barry Fikes Photo

SHONEY'S INN of TUSCALOOSA



AN AMERICAN TRADITION



3501 McFarland Blvd
@ I-20/I-59, exit 73
1-(205) 556-7950

FOR INFORMATION AND
RESERVATIONS FOR ANY
SHONEY'S INN CALL TOLL FREE
1-800-637-1111

AFTER DECEMBER 1, 1985
1-800-222-2222

VISIT OUR FAMILY
FOOD LOCATIONS

SHONEY'S
RESTAURANTS

3429 McFarland Blvd.
and
1401 McFarland Blvd. N.E.

Captain D's
a great little seafood place
3517 McFarland Blvd.

Lee's
Famous Recipe
COUNTRY CHICKEN
2014 McFarland Blvd.

1986 Alabama Spring Football Roster

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Exp.	Hometown	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Exp.	Hometown
Larry Abney	FI	5-11	175	Jr.	2L	Slidell, La.	Butch Lewis	C	6-3	270	Jr.	1L	Mobile
Curt Aken	KS	5-11	190	Fr.	RS	Titusville, Fla.	William Lutz	TE	6-1	188	So.	Tr.	Tuscaloosa
Doug Allen	FB	5-9	180	Jr.	1L	Cantonment, Fla.	Darrell Martin	NG	5-11	235	So.	Sq	Blountsville
Andy Anderson	SG	6-5	240	Fr.	RS	Lithia Springs, Ga.	Joey Mathis	OLB	5-10	197	Fr.	HS	Slocumb
Bennie Atkinson	DT	6-4	250	Fr.	RS	Conyers, Ga.	Claude McCants	RB	5-9	190	Fr.	HS	Harrisburg, Pa.
Calvin Ayers	CB	5-10	180	Fr.	HS	Decatur	*Waymon McGriff	C	6-0	245	Fr.	RS	Cottonwood
Marco Battle	SE	5-11	175	Fr.	RS	Phenix City	Don McClain	RB	5-11	171	Jr.	Sq	Claxton, Ga.
Al Bell	FI	6-0	170	Sr.	1L	Los Angeles	Rick Mercer	LB	5-10	205	Fr.	RS	Millbrook
Bernard Bennett	FB	6-0	221	Fr.	RS	Tampa, Fla.	*Scott Meredith	C	5-11	240	Fr.	RS	Bayou LaBatre
Cornelius Bennett	OLB	6-4	235	Sr.	3L	Birmingham	Lydell Mitchell	OLB	6-3	201	Jr.	1L	Prichard
Jeff Bentley	QG	6-4	233	Jr.	Sq	Alabaster	Chris Mohr	P	6-4	195	So.	1L	Thomson, Ga.
George Bethune	OLB	6-4	210	So.	Sq	Ft. Walton Beach	Eric Moore	SE	6-0	177	So.	Sq	Muscle Shoals
Scott Blankenship	C	6-1	220	So.	Sq	Muscle Shoals	Ward Murphy	C	6-0	215	Fr.	RS	Lake Forest, Ill.
Mike Bobo	FB	5-11	220	Jr.	1L	Crossville	Brett Nance	ST	6-4	245	So.	Sq	Hartselle
Chester Braggs	RB	6-1	188	Sr.	3L	Greensboro	Wes Neighbors	C	6-1	250	Sr.	3L	Huntsville
Jay Brenchick	SE	5-11	162	Fr.	HS	Fryeburg, Me.	Gene Newberry	TE	6-2	210	So.	Sq	Blytheville, Ark.
Philip Brown	OLB	6-3	206	Jr.	1L	Birmingham	Joe Orsi	QB	6-1	175	Fr.	RS	Manassas, Va.
Tommy Browning	SE	5-9	160	Fr.	RS	Mobile	Gary Otten	ST	6-6	260	Sr.	2L	Huntsville
*Mike Burch	QB	6-3	185	Fr.	RS	Mobile	David Palmer	OLB	6-1	210	Fr.	RS	Hackleburg
Jeff Burgess	LB	6-0	195	Fr.	HS	Gadsden	Greg Payne	FI	6-2	195	Jr.	2L	Montgomery
Marty Burke	SS	6-0	180	Fr.	HS	Birmingham	Kenneth Preston	TE	6-5	186	Fr.	HS	Birmingham
*Mike Burkett	C	5-11	220	So.	Sq	Gardendale	Tray Pruet	SG	6-3	260	Fr.	RS	Corpus Christi, Texas
Earnest Carroll	TE	6-1	203	Sr.	Sq	West Blocton	*Greg Richardson	SE	5-9	166	Sr.	3L	Mobile
John Cassimus	RB	5-10	190	Fr.	RS	Birmingham	Todd Richardson	CB	5-9	160	So.	Sq	Syracuse, N.Y.
David Casteal	FB	5-11	195	So.	Sq	Eglin AFB, Fla.	Carlos Robinson	LB	5-11	190	Jr.	Sq	Enterprise
Steve Clonts	C	6-3	205	Fr.	RS	Rome, Ga.	Freddie Robinson	CB	6-1	175	Sr.	3L	Mobile
Tommy Cole	NG	6-2	244	So.	1L	Jasper	*Randy Rockwell	OLB	6-3	189	Jr.	2L	Daphne
Bill Condon	SG	6-2	241	Jr.	2L	Mobile	Larry Rose	QB	6-4	270	So.	1L	Gadsden
Sperling Cook	OLB	6-0	205	So.	Tr.	Birmingham	Derrick Ruston	NG	6-3	240	Fr.	RS	Mobile
Britton Cooper	CB	6-1	175	Sr.	3L	Mobile	Willie Ryles	DT	6-4	260	So.	1L	Phenix City
Erlando Courtney	FI	6-1	187	So.	Tr.	Thomasville	*George Salem	SG	6-0	243	Sr.	Sq	Birmingham
Howard Cross	TE	6-5	209	So.	1L	New Hope	Jimbo Salem	SS	6-1	185	Fr.	RS	Birmingham
Paul Davenport	FB	5-10	170	So.	Sq	Mobile	George Scruggs	RB	5-11	175	Fr.	RS	Decatur
John Davis	S	5-11	180	Fr.	RS	Dallas	Troy Secrist	FI	5-11	166	So.	Sq	Pensacola, Fla.
Vantriese Davis	LB	6-0	190	Fr.	RS	Phenix City	Wayne Shaw	FB	6-0	175	Fr.	RS	Tullahoma, Tenn.
Wayne Davis	LB	6-4	215	Sr.	3L	Gordo	Willie Shephard	LB	6-1	190	So.	1L	Prichard
*Tripp Derryberry	OLB	6-0	194	So.	Sq	Leeds	Mike Shula	QB	6-2	198	Sr.	2L	Miami
Steve Eberlain	KS	5-11	190	Fr.	RS	Titusville, Fla.	Derrick Slaughter	DT	5-11	265	Sr.	1L	Birmingham
Venson Elder	DT	6-2	265	Sr.	2L	Decatur, Ga.	Anthony Smith	DT	6-4	245	So.	1L	Elizabeth City, N.C.
Shawn Ellison	SE	6-1	176	Fr.	HS	Greenville	David Smith	QB	6-0	172	So.	Sq	Gadsden
Craig Epps	OLB	6-4	209	Jr.	2L	Miami	Angelo Stafford	TE	6-5	195	Jr.	Sq	Prichard
*Shannon Felder	CB	5-10	176	So.	1L	Willis, Texas	Vince Sutton	QB	6-2	190	Jr.	1L	LaGrange, Ga.
Mike Fike	QB	6-0	190	Fr.	RS	Montgomery	Rafe Taylor	OLB	6-2	225	Fr.	RS	Tuscaloosa
Bruce Foster	QT	6-3	270	Fr.	RS	Bessemer	*Cliff Thomas	NG	6-2	251	Sr.	1L	Pearl, Miss.
John Fruhmorgen	QT	6-5	290	So.	Sq	Tampa, Fla.	Darryl Thomas	SE	6-3	190	Jr.	Sq	Victoria, Texas
Darrell Fuhman	LB	6-0	185	So.	Tr.	Gadsden	Derrick Thomas	OLB	6-2	222	So.	1L	Miami
Greg Gilbert	LB	6-3	200	So.	1L	Decatur	Ricky Thomas	SS	6-0	185	Sr.	3L	Niceville, Fla.
Joe Godwin	LB	6-2	217	Sr.	2L	New Brocton	Van Tiffin	PK	5-10	163	Sr.	3L	Red Bay
Chris Goode	CB	6-0	186	Jr.	Sq	Town Creek	Rory Turner	SS	6-3	180	Jr.	2L	Atlanta
Kerry Goode	FB	6-0	200	Jr.	1L	Town Creek	Steve Turner	DT	6-3	240	Fr.	RS	Bessemer
Murry Hill	RB	5-8	170	So.	Sq	Atmore	Mike Vice	FB	5-11	205	Fr.	RS	Birmingham
Desmond Holoman	LB	6-4	200	Sr.	1L	Hampton, Va.	T.J. Weist	FI	6-0	165	Jr.	Sq	Bay City, Mich.
Bobby Humphrey	RB	6-1	180	So.	1L	Birmingham	Darryl Whetstone	DT	6-3	255	So.	Sq	Montgomery
David Iglehart	QB	6-0	190	Fr.	RS	Louisville, Ky.	Chris White	SE	6-2	181	Fr.	HS	Southeaston, Mass.
Tod Ingram	QB	6-2	195	Fr.	RS	Birmingham	Clay Whitehurst	SE	6-1	180	Jr.	2L	Nashville
Curt Jarvis	NG	6-2	266	Sr.	3L	Gardendale	Daryl Whitfield	QG	6-3	245	Fr.	RS	Birmingham
Gene Jelks	RB	5-11	170	So.	1L	Gadsden	Darin Whitlock	C	6-0	210	Sr.	1L	Orlando, Fla.
Alan Johnson	CB	5-9	186	Fr.	RS	Auburndale, Fla.	Vernon Wilkinson	CB	6-1	186	Sr.	2L	Enterprise
Hoss Johnson	QT	6-4	269	Sr.	2L	Huntsville	Steve Wilson	S	6-2	185	So.	1L	Brundidge
Kermit Kendrick	S	6-1	195	So.	1L	Meridian, Miss.	Woody Wilson	OLB	6-0	190	Fr.	RS	Shawnee, Okla.
Joe King	ST	6-5	290	So.	1L	Gadsden	Butch Worley	PK	5-10	185	Sr.	Sq	Huntsville
Lance Laskey	TE	6-5	215	Fr.	RS	Valdosta, Ga.	Bo Wright	LB	5-11	215	Jr.	1L	Prichard
Shon Lee	SS	6-0	185	Sr.	1L	Deatsville	Rodney Young	FI	6-0	162	Fr.	RS	LaGrange, Ga.

*Burch, Burkett, Derryberry, McGriff, Meredith, Rockwell, Salem, and Thomas are not participating due to injury or illness. Richardson is participating in track, Felder in baseball.

THE KICK

A Limited Edition Art Print by
Daniel A. Moore



© 1985 New Life Art, Inc.

THE TRADITION CONTINUES.

The tradition of fine Art Classics such as "The Goal Line Stand," "The Coach and 315," and "Liberty" continues with artist Daniel A. Moore's beautiful new release, "The Kick."

Full-Color Edition (shown above). Published from the original oil painting, this edition is strictly limited to 1985 prints, each signed and numbered by the artist. In addition, there are 90 Artist's Proofs which are also available. In keeping with the artist's exacting standards, permanent inks and conservator's grade paper have been implemented in the production of this exquisite lithograph. The print has an image area of 16" x 25" plus ample margins. Each full-color print is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity.

Gold Embossing. We are embossing this handsome, 24-k gold coin design in the bottom margin of each full-color print at no extra charge. It is carefully engraved in detail like the coin used for the coin toss in the middle of Legion Field prior to the 50th Annual Iron Bowl on November 30th, 1985.



(Shown approximate size)

ORDER FORM				AMOUNT
Full-Color Edition.	<input type="checkbox"/> Unframed	\$125.00	Qty. _____	\$ _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Framed	\$240.00	Qty. _____	\$ _____
Artist's Proofs.	<input type="checkbox"/> Unframed	\$250.00	Qty. _____	\$ _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Framed	\$365.00	Qty. _____	\$ _____
Sales Tax.	Alabama residents <i>must</i> add 5%			\$ _____
Shipping.	Add \$4. for each order of			\$ _____
	unframed prints			\$ _____
	Add \$6. for each framed print			\$ _____

Prices subject to change without notice. **TOTAL AMOUNT** \$ _____

- ☐ Please find check or money order enclosed for total amount.
☐ Please charge total to my ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

CARD # _____ EXP. _____

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE _____

SHIP TO: (Please print plainly. *Must* list street address for UPS shipping)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

YOU HAVE A FULL "NO RISK" 30-DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE.

New Life Art, Inc., P.O. Box 26086, Birmingham, AL 35226 • (205) 979-2158

A Two-Pronged Goal

by Kirk McNair

Johnston wants Tiders mentally tough as well as strong

The primary goal of the Alabama offseason program is to make Crimson Tide football players stronger and quicker. However, explains Bama Strength Coach Kent Johnston, in achieving this he also wants Tiders to become mentally tougher. "Everybody runs and everybody lifts in college football offseason programs," said Johnston. "My philosophy is that we want the program to give them mental conditioning, which is usually the difference in a tough football game. We want our guys to reach a point where they do things they didn't think they could do. The mind plays a big part in football success, and Coach Perkins believes that he can tell something about who will hang in there in the clutch from what they do in the offseason program if it's a good, tough program."

Alabama's offseason program got under way in mid January when students returned for spring semester and continued for eight weeks, up until spring break. Although in theory any student may take part in the program, in practice only football players—and a few prospective walkons—do. "I'm sure if you asked any of our players about it they would tell you it's very taxing," said Johnston. Actually, if one asked a football player what he thought about the offseason program, he would almost certainly have a more thorough—and perhaps more colorful—description than "very taxing."

The offseason program is broken into two basic areas, weight lifting and running. "We lift three or four days per week with the linemen and linebackers lifting more than the skill position players," Johnston said. "We run in some fashion four to five days per week, with the skill position players running five days." Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays are the primary lift days, Tuesdays and Thursdays the primary conditioning days. Most of the conditioning work is done in Memorial Coliseum's practice gym.

Conditioning work concentrates on flexibility, speed improvement, and im-

provement in agility and quickness. All workouts begin with stretching, then the routine comes from a large number of possibilities. "There are two ways to increase speed," pointed out Johnston, "either increase the stride length or improve the foot frequency. It's easier to increase the stride length, which we do with drills such as step runs." Alabama football players do not get long distance running "because the game isn't played that way," said Johnston. He also has special drills for special position players. "For instance, we'll work with defensive backs on drills for increasing their speed in back pedalling or improving the time it takes them to turn to run with a receiver."

At the end of the offseason program all participants were timed in the 40-yard dash "and we had improvement in almost every one," said Johnston.

Most of this part of the offseason program will be held in the new indoor football practice facility beginning next year. The facility is scheduled for completion just prior to next fall practice.

In weightroom work the players are divided into three groups—offensive and defensive backs in one, wide receivers and kickers in a second, and linemen and linebackers in a third. As might be expected, the third group gets more weightroom work—sessions that last at least two hours per day. The other two groups usually lift for no more than an hour.

Alabama uses both free weights and weight machines. Weight workouts are held in a Taj Mahal of weightrooms in the new football building. "There may be a few around the country that are larger, but there are none better equipped," said Johnston of the modern facility. There is space for 60 or 65 men to work out at one time in the new facility, compared to a limit of about 30 in Alabama's former weightroom in Memorial Coliseum.

There is also a conditioning room in the football building which is used primarily for stretching. When the new practice facility is

completed, that room will be an additional weightroom.

"We don't worry about a one rep max," said Johnston, referring to the amount of weight a man can lift one time. "A 500 pound bench press strength is useless in football if the guy can't get to where he is supposed to be. It has to be usable strength. It would be a lot better to have 400 bench press strength and get to the play every time than to have 500 bench press strength and just get there every three or four times."

"Alabama has traditionally had quick, aggressive teams even as the players have gotten bigger. We want to continue to be quick and aggressive, but we've also got to continue to get stronger. Emotion is good, but there was emotion at the Alamo, too, and there weren't any survivors. You need big, strong players to play this game."

Bama does record the one rep max that each player can bench press, squat and power clean. "We do that for two reasons," said Johnston. "One is to show the players they are getting results. The second is that we can take those numbers and estimate very closely what a player could max in 12 different lifts. Then we adjust our workouts so they are working with 80 percent of the maximum weight they could lift once and putting it into various combinations of repetitions."

Johnston changes the workout routine frequently. "Research over the years has shown us that the workout must be altered in order to stimulate the body," he said. "If we stay on the same program the body will adjust to accommodate that program and improvement will be slow or nonexistent. If a runner goes out and does the same distance each day, he will run it in about the same time each day because the body will adjust to that workout. Runners need to change their workouts every few weeks in order to stimulate change in their bodies."

As might be expected, relatively young players exhibit the most dramatic improvement in the offseason program. Specifically, Johnston points to tailback Bobby Hum-

'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/APRIL '86

phrey, wide receiver Marco Battle, offensive tackle Joe King ("He was strong when he got here, but he's really improved.") and offensive guard Larry Rose ("His main problem is keeping his weight down.") among the first year players. "Bill Condon also has improved a great deal," said Johnston. "He's brought his 40-yard time down while getting his strength up, which is exactly what we're looking for."

Although the winter months are taken up primarily with conditioning and strength programs, Johnston's work is not limited to that. There are some players unable to participate in the offseason program because of injuries. He and Trainer Chris Smith work together on programs for players who can't go through regular workouts to determine what they can do to stay in the best shape possible within their limits.

"This year we had a coed, Karen Lanter, who worked with some of the injured players in dance aerobics," said Johnston. "In addition to being a good workout for them, I'm sure it stimulated them to want to do their workout. I know they enjoyed looking at Karen a lot more than they would me."

With spring training under way, Johnston's tasks have changed somewhat. He will conduct stretching and warmup exercises for the team prior to practice. During practice he works with players who are injured and unable to take part in practice. Following practice he will conduct either conditioning or weight lifting workouts. Players continue to lift weights two or three days per week through the spring, just as they do during football season.

Perhaps surprisingly, Johnston does not consider the winter offseason program to be the most important. Following spring drills he will give each player a summer workout program. "This is the most important offseason work," said Johnston. "You don't have to be at peak condition for spring training, but you do want him at his strongest and quickest for the start of fall work."

"Some of the players will go home and some will stay here, but usually most of them return for the second semester of summer school so they can work out with our facilities."

When practice begins he will do as during spring training, conducting warmups and post-practice conditioning and working with injured players in rehabilitative conditioning. "Game days are easy," he said. "I put them through their warmups, then stand on the sidelines and hope for the best."

Johnston first became interested in strength and conditioning as a defensive back at
APRIL '86/BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide



Alabama Strength Coach Kent Johnston puts Crimson Tide tailback Chester Braggs through his paces in the offseason program.

Barry Fikes Photo

Stephen F. Austin State in Nacogdoches, Texas. After graduation he became an assistant football coach at Teague (Texas) High School. "Since I was the low man on the totem pole, I got stuck with the offseason program," said Johnston. "But I enjoyed it and I still do. One reason I like it so much is that it gives me a chance to work with the players virtually all season long. I think the position coaches probably envy that part of my job."

Johnston came to Alabama in 1983 from Willis (Texas) High School after he had spent a year at Northwestern State in Louisiana. He served as a secondary coach and as an assistant to Al Miller in the strength and conditioning program. When Miller joined the Denver Broncos of the National Football League following the 1984 season, Johnston was elevated to strength coach. He is assisted by Rod Springer.

Johnston gives credit for offseason conditioning success to the players. "The key is having good workers, and we have them. We've got a large senior class and we've had the best leadership we've had since I've been

here this year. The players are not afraid to work and they gave it very good effort. If they won't work, no program will be a success. There is not a magic formula for getting bigger, stronger and faster, and the players know it. They know they are not going to get something for nothing."

As the administrator of the rigorous offseason program, Johnston doesn't expect to win any popularity contests among the players, at least during the eight weeks of the program. "You can't worry too much about what they think about you," he said, laughing. "But most of them understand. At the exact moment they have to do something they probably don't want to a lot of times, but they know it is for a reason and they have given terrific effort. We're all working for the same goal—to put that ring on our finger."

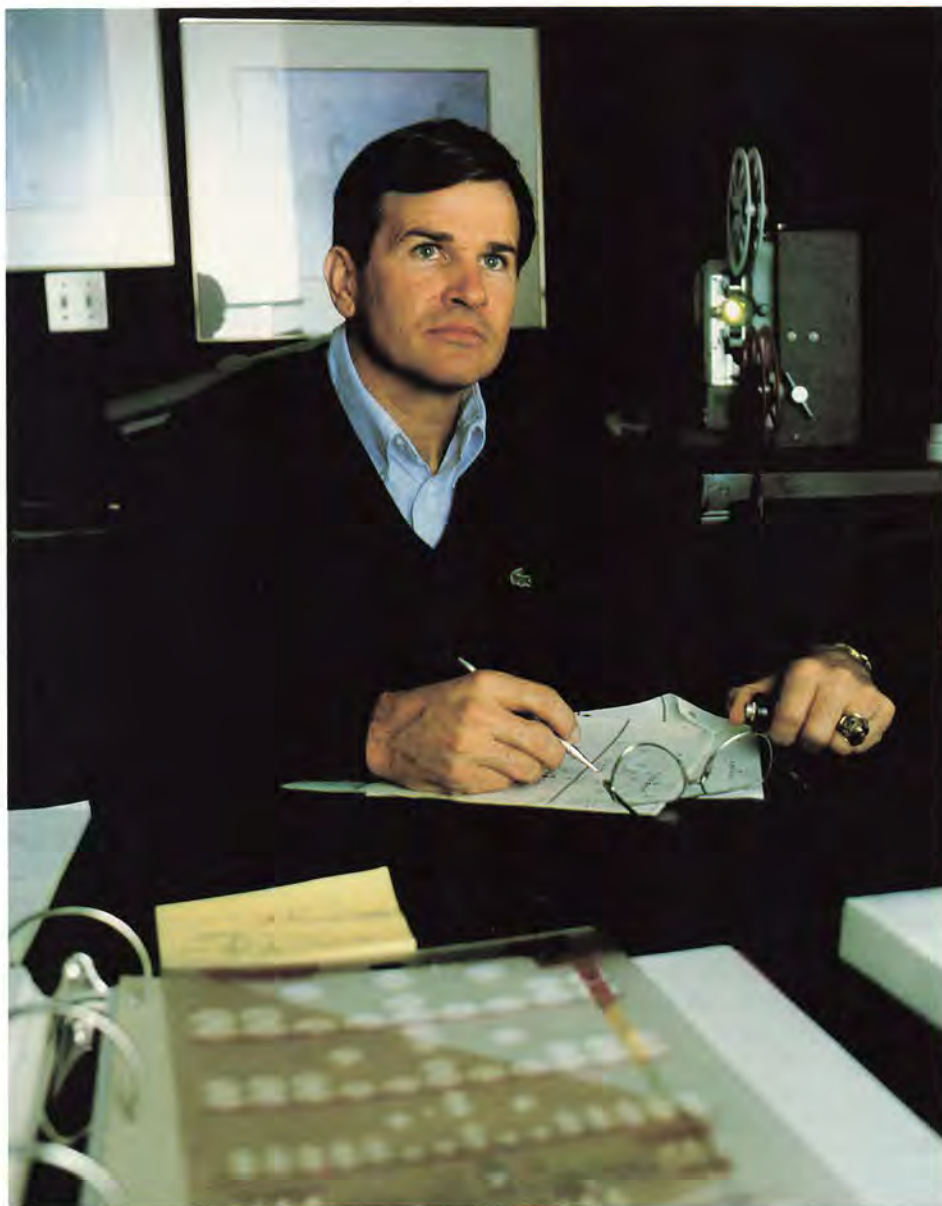
At Alabama the ring has always meant one thing—the national championship. The efforts of Tide players under Kent Johnston in the offseason program will be a part of reaching that goal.

Smith Thinking National Title

by Donald F. Staffo

Tide's new secondary coach has a solid background of success

Rick Smith had been on the job only a few days, but already he had fallen into an early morning regimen, immersing himself in his duties as he prepared to coach Alabama's defensive backfield. The projector was whirling early each morning in his office in the Alabama Football Building.



"The first thing I had to do is get myself ready for spring practice," he said two weeks before drills were to begin. "I'm spending a lot of time with Joe Kines (Alabama's defensive coordinator) trying to learn the system. I've talked with Joe about every coverage. Now I'm going back and looking at every (defensive) play of every game about five times. That enables me to see the personnel, the schemes, and what Alabama is doing on defense."

Smith, 37, comes to the Crimson Tide from Georgia Tech, where he served as defensive backfield coach under Bill Curry the past four years, his second stop with the Yellow Jackets. After playing for Bill Peterson at Florida State, Smith cut his coaching teeth at Godby (Florida) High School, where he was an assistant football coach and head baseball coach. After three years he left to become head football coach and athletics director at Wakulla (Florida) High School, where he turned a losing program into a 22-9 winner. "They had not won in nine years and we went to the state playoffs our third year," said Smith.

Using that success as a springboard, Smith was named to Pepper Rogers' staff at Tech. After a two-year stay with the Rambling Wreck, Smith moved to East Tennessee State for a two-year stint as secondary and strength coach.

Smith then returned to his native Florida and the prep ranks. At Marianna High School he again took over a program that had not been winning. An additional disadvantage was Marianna moving up in classification from 3A to 4A. Nevertheless, his teams got progressively better, going 4-6, 7-3 and 10-1.

From there Smith returned to Georgia Tech, where he spent the last four years

New Alabama Assistant Football Coach Rick Smith spent most of his first few weeks on the job watching films of 1985 Bama secondary performance. Smith, who will be coaching Crimson Tide defensive backs, came from Georgia Tech.

Barry Fikes Photo

molding a rock-ribbed pass defense that was instrumental in the Engineers earning an All-American Bowl berth following last season. In its first bowl game in several years, Georgia Tech beat Michigan State, 17-6, in Birmingham.

Prior to Smith's arrival, Georgia Tech was not among the top 50 schools in the nation in pass defense and was dead last in the Atlantic Coast Conference. In 1984 the Jackets made it into the top 30 nationally and climbed to third in the ACC. Last year Tech was 15th in the nation in pass defense, first in the ACC.

More specifically, the Georgia Tech defense turned in 19 pass interceptions and caused 32 turnovers, while giving up fewer than 150 yards per game. The opposition completed only 46 percent of its passes.

"I tell our people we want under 50 percent (of the passes thrown against them) completed," said Smith. "If we do that I think we're doing a pretty good job."

Alabama Head Coach Ray Perkins said he was very pleased to have Smith as a part of his staff. "The thing I looked at (when considering Smith) was how his secondary at Georgia Tech played the last two years," said Perkins. "They played extremely well, and that's a credit to him. But first and foremost, Rick's a very fine person. He has a good mind, a lot of integrity, good communications skills, and I like his approach and how he relates to young people. We're lucky to get him."

Smith does have a solid football background. In addition to playing for a very progressive coach in Bill Peterson, he credits Pepper Rogers (now head coach of the Memphis Showboats of the United States Football League) with teaching him practice organization. "He is a very knowledgeable coach on both sides of the ball," said Smith.

Bama's newest assistant sees similarities in former Baltimore Colts teammates Curry and Perkins. "What I learned from Coach Curry was patience, self-confidence, and how he really cared about everyone in his program," Smith said.

Kines noted how Smith gained good experience working under Curry and Defensive Coordinator Don Lindsey (an Alabama graduate assistant coach in the mid-1960s). "He's been associated with a good program and with a tough league," said Kines. "He's knowledgeable and he pays attention to detail. He brings us enthusiasm and a willingness to work. He jumped right in and didn't waste any time. He'll take the players we've got and add something to our program. He's a good football coach or Coach Perkins wouldn't have hired him."

Smith wants to be at Alabama as much as Tide coaches are happy to have him. "For someone who wanted to be a coach all his life it's like a dream come true to coach at Alabama," he said. "The Alabama football tradition has always been great. Alabama has won more national championships than almost anyone."

Still, Smith said, it was hard to leave Georgia Tech. "It was a real comfortable, stable situation for me there," he said. "Coach Curry was such a great guy to work for. He really cared for me and he loved my family. Not many guys can leave college football and then get back into it, but Coach Curry gave me another chance and I'll never forget him for that."

"There are only a few schools I would have left Georgia Tech for. Being from the South, Alabama, LSU, Florida and Florida State are about the only ones, and it just so happens that Alabama was my first choice."

"I'm just glad to be here. I'm impressed with Coach Perkins. He's an overachiever, he's honest, he's a hard worker, and I like all those things. I like the way he does things. We also have great facilities and great kids here."

But with Georgia Tech's program (9-2-1 last season and a final national ranking of 18th) on the rise, why leave a school re-emerging as a football power?

"Because at Alabama we have a chance to compete for the national championship every year," Smith said. "At Georgia Tech

they have a chance to have a winning season every year, but realistically they may not be able to compete for the national championship every year. Also, the Southeastern Conference is better known for football. The Atlantic Coast Conference is more known for basketball."

"There's more pressure to win here, but at this stage in my career I felt it was a good move. I'm coming into a great program."

Although he aspires to be a defensive coordinator and eventually a college head coach, Smith said that "Right now all I want to be is a great defensive secondary coach. My goal is to help Alabama win the national championship and to do that we want to have the best secondary in the nation. To help our team, my job then is to eliminate the long run and not allow any deep bombs for touchdowns. If we do that, then we've got a chance to win."

Smith replaces Steve Walters, who came to Alabama from New England of the National Football League and who has returned to the NFL as receivers coach for the New Orleans Saints.

He is married to the former Barbara Reddick and they have three children—Beth, 11; Steve, 9; and Billy, 6. His family is expected to join him in Tuscaloosa in the near future. "I love Tuscaloosa and I'm sure they will too," said Smith. "It's very similar to where I was raised (on the outskirts of Tallahassee, Florida). It's not too small and not too big. I'm just glad to be here."

DOUG LAYTON's

Steeplechase TOWNHOMES

STEEPLECHASE Townhomes is a new community built in the heart of the fastest growing and most sought after area in Jefferson County. These private residences are designed for quality living with the commitment of the developer to quality construction with attention to detail that is reflective in the materials and workmanship throughout each residence.

\$73,000 to \$93,200



VEONA DANIELS ROAD
AND ROCKY RIDGE RANCH ROAD
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

The Appointments:

- Fee Simple Ownership
- Energy Efficient Construction
- Parquet Foyer Entry
- Woodburning Fireplaces with Gas Log Lighter
- Private Deck or Patio

Call or write:

DOUG LAYTON
520 Beacon Parkway West
Suite 108
Birmingham, AL 35209
(205)942-1512





Wes Neighbors:

Looking To 1986

by Kirk McNair

Alabama's football future outshines even the best of memories past

Wes Neighbors is a big man, 6-1 and 260, which is too big to cry. And he doesn't want to cry over his senior season. He can remember crying over an Alabama football game. Wes was nine years old when Alabama met Notre Dame in the Sugar Bowl following the 1973 season. The Irish took a 24-23 decision. "I went in the bathroom and cried," said Wes. "My mother had to come in there and console me."

Neighbors insists that he isn't looking past any games on Alabama's schedule, but the Notre Dame game is on his mind. Just as it is on the minds of most Alabama football fans. It's part of what may be the most challenging schedule in Alabama football history. "I looked at it for about a split second," said Wes of the 1986 slate. "I didn't want to get depressed. Playing an opening game like Ohio State is a real challenge. I've always believed that the first game is very important to the season. I don't think there's any danger of any of us looking past the opener to Florida or Notre Dame or Penn State or Tennessee—particularly Tennessee, of course—or Auburn. We've got to take them one game at a time."

A player such as Neighbors has temptation to look past more than just a football game. Over the past few years a number of honors have come his way, beginning his freshman season in 1983 (following a redshirt year). In his first varsity campaign he was named Freshman All-America by *Football News* and was All-Southeastern Conference. In the Sun Bowl following that contest he was named Most Valuable Lineman for his performance against SMU All-America nose-

Wes Neighbors doesn't tower over many players, but at 6-1 he's considered about the right height for the middle of the Alabama offensive line, a key area in pass protection.

Barry Fikes Photo

guard Michael Carter in Bama's 28-7 win over the Mustangs. Despite Alabama's dismal 1984 season, he moved up on *Football News'* list to Sophomore All-America and again received All-SEC mention. Last year he was mentioned on several All-America and all-conference teams. As a senior he will be closely watched by scouts of the National Football League.

"It enters your mind because at this point in your life you're making plans for the future," said Wes. "But I'm not going to look past this season by any means, because this is an important year for our team. I'm looking forward to it and I know the rest of the team is and I think probably all Alabama fans are. It could be a very good season, although it's going to be a tough one—a real tough one."

"But we feel Alabama is back on top and this is the year to prove it. It's a crucial year in my mind."

Marketing major Neighbors has analyzed his assets and liabilities regarding a professional football career. "There's no doubt that my main liability is my height," he said. "At 6-1 I'd be in a lot of trouble if I played any position but center. But the average center now is 6-2." Although football players have grown larger and larger, the center position in football is more and more being manned by the shortest linemen. "I prefer having a center his height," says Bama Assistant Head Coach Jim Fuller, who tutors Tide linemen. "I don't think it's a disadvantage; it certainly doesn't appear to be with Wes. He has a low center of gravity, which is important in the middle of the line on pass blocking schemes."

Neighbors says his main asset is his speed and quickness. He runs a consistent 4.85 40-yard dash. He also thinks playing in Alabama's offense is a help. "I'd be lying if I

didn't say I was sorry I didn't get to play for Coach Bryant, but our offense is similar to those of the NFL. And I don't think I'll have that hard an adjustment to make if I get a chance to play. In fact, our offense is exactly like some pro teams. I can watch a game on Sunday and often tell you the exact play that was run. I know that wishbone linemen have a more difficult time making the adjustment." Neighbors was recruited by Paul Bryant's staff, but spent his first year (and Bryant's last) at Alabama as a redshirt. Although he was recruited primarily as a center, Neighbors had also been an outstanding linebacker at Huntsville High School and was tried on defense during that 1982 fall before moving to offense in the spring of 1983.

Fuller points out another asset of his center. "Most of the time Wes is playing against people who are bigger and stronger than he is, but he's made up for that with his technique. He was our highest grading lineman last year, grading out 79 percent for the season. We feel that 60 percent is a winning grade for an offensive lineman. He had a poor game against Tennessee and one against Southern Miss and without those would have graded over 80 percent.

"When you consider he had 661 snaps—about 60 per game—and that he only had five missed assignments and only two penalties, I'd say that's exceptional. That means he's a disciplined player who knows what to do and does it."

If he gets the opportunity to play professional football after this season he plans to give it his best shot. "Part of it depends on which team you go with, but if I get a chance I'm not going to give up until they give me an apple and a road map." If after he's done his best and doesn't stick, he's not going to roll over and play dead. "I've prepared myself," he said. He could complete the requirements for his degree this summer, but if he doesn't he'll graduate either in January or next May.

Some might point to Neighbors' history of injuries as a liability, but he's usually well on game day. He has started 34 of the 35 games Bama has played in his career. Illness limited him to only one play in the Tide's controversial 28-34 loss to Penn State his freshman season.

"You don't score points until Saturday," said Neighbors. "I'm sure it has hurt me to have missed a lot of practice, but I've had nagging injuries. I'm just glad I haven't had a serious injury." Each week Alabama Head Coach Ray Perkins gives an assessment of the previous week's game and a look ahead to the next contest. Included in that report is the list of injured, ranging from "nicked up"

to "out." Neighbors is almost always on the list. "I've read in the paper on Friday that I probably wasn't going to play," he said, laughing. "I'm not the most healthy person, particularly my legs.

"I've had some scares. In 1984 I had a partial tear of a knee ligament against LSU and played only six plays the next week against Cincinnati. Then I hurt it again in the Auburn game. They took me to the dressing room before halftime and I really thought I was seriously hurt. Then last fall I got hit in the back of the legs by one of our backs and got bent backwards and hurt my knee. We had two other players that same day who didn't get hit as hard as I did and ended up having surgery. After practice I asked (Trainer) Chris Smith when I'd get back and he told me I was lucky that I was going to get back at all."

Last spring Neighbors suffered a hyperextension in his right wrist, necessitating that he snap with his left hand the last week in practice. "I wore a cast for a month and just told everyone it was broken because that doesn't take the explanation a hyperextension does," Neighbors said. "That hurt me in that it was hard to rehabilitate and I couldn't bench press because I couldn't take a chance on straining it again." Although Neighbors bench pressed 430 as a high school senior, he now does only about 400. "I feel like I'm getting stronger now, but I've only been able to bench press since late in the season. And I'm really only getting healthy now, three months after the end of the season."

While the injuries may have been bad, Neighbors has already piled up a lot of good memories of his Alabama career. "Last year's Auburn game has to be number one," he said of the Tide's 25-23 miracle win. "That was great to win, and particularly the way we did it. At the end of the game, Auburn played better than I thought they could. They showed a lot of class and pride in coming back the way they did to take the lead. But then we went out and did what we had to do, and I think that tells a lot about us. The game with Auburn the year before ranks up there, too. They had so much talent. For us to not only stay with them, but to beat them, really means a lot to me.

"Then there's last year's Georgia game. I think that game pulled us together as a team, made us realize that we could win the close games after so many years of losing a lot of close games. We had pretty much dominated that game, then it seemed to have gotten away from us on the blocked punt, but everyone did the job. I think that may have pulled the entire Alabama family together.

"Finally, there's the Sun Bowl game in

1983. Not just because I have a trophy in my room to remind me of it, either. I don't think anyone gave us a chance against SMU and we beat them convincingly. There was a closeness on that team that reminds me of what we've got now."

Bama's center, who won the "Paul Crane Most Improved Offensive Lineman Award" in the spring of 1983, admits he's not a strong candidate to win the "Jerry Duncan I Like To Practice Award." "I don't think I'll ever push for that," he said. "I don't understand who could win it. I don't think there are many candidates around." Fuller notes "He's not the best practice player in the world and I wish he did practice better, but he's a game player. And it's not that he tries to get out of practice, it's just that he seems to stay hurt some and he's got some allergies.

"But he's a real pleasure to coach. I really enjoy working with him. He's got a good approach to the game and enjoys playing, and that's what it's all about."

Neighbors does have some spring goals. "First of all," he said, a smile breaking on his face, "to survive." Going into spring drills, Neighbors is the only true center on the Bama depth chart. "I've been doing some research, checking to see how many guys we've got who've played center before," he said. Just then Bama fullback Mike Bobo walked by. "I think Bobo could play center," said Neighbors. "I've already talked to Coach Fuller," said Bobo. "He asked me to move to center. He told me 'Wes is the only one we've got, and you know he won't make it all the way through spring.'"

Fuller really did check with Bobo about experimenting at the position. "Wes was real glad to see us go out and sign some centers this year, but what he's really worried about is the spring," said the Tide coach. "We're going to have to find some people to play in there and Bobo looks to me like he could do it. But I don't think he's interested in moving."

Neighbors also wants to improve his technique. "I think I got a little sloppy late last season," he said. "I know what I'm supposed to do insofar as coming off the ball, staying low, maintaining my block, and so on, but I don't think my technique on the basic stuff was as good in the last part of the season as it had been in the early part." He's not worried about getting work on his technique. "I'm sure if I noticed it Coach Fuller and Coach (George) Henshaw noticed it too and they'll give me the work."

Fuller said that Wes "wasn't sloppy, but he knows that his performance depends on his technique. He just wants to perform at the 'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/APRIL '86



Linemen don't make the long gainers that bring football fans to their feet, but they do the job to spring those runners and to protect the passers. Satisfaction comes in seeing the results.

Barry Fikes Photo

highest possible level. When he's not executing as well as he can, it's probably a breakdown in technique."

If Wes makes a mistake he has more than just his coaches to point it out to him. His father, former Tide All-America tackle Billy Neighbors, keeps close tabs on the work of his son. "It may bother some coaches for their players to talk to someone other than a staff member about their performance or technique or whatever," said Fuller, "but Billy has been through a lot of football and he's helped Wes. They've looked at film together and he watches games carefully and I appreciate what Billy's done for Wes. Billy's advice comes pretty cheap, too."

Neighbors acknowledges his father's assistance. "He's helped me a lot," said Wes. "In the bad times, going through a redshirt season or going through the 5-6 season, he was a help. And he's helped me in the good times, too. First of all, he and my mother are both very supportive of me as an Alabama football player. They go to all the games and Dad comes down to most of our scrimmages

in the spring. He watches me, lets me know if I'm doing something. When I was a freshman he gave me scouting reports."

Even if Wes had not been one of the nation's most highly-regarded high school prep prospects, he would have been well known to Alabama fans by virtue of his name. "I got a little sick of being 'Billy Neighbors' son' when I first came here, but that's pretty much died down now," said Wes. "At least when I leave Alabama or the South it leaves me, but it never leaves someone like Mike."

Mike is Shula, Alabama's quarterback and the son of Miami Dolphins Head Coach Don Shula. Neighbors and Shula not only have the close physical relationship that goes with being center and quarterback, they are also close off the field. "It seems like some people thought Mike had just been signed by Alabama because of his name, but he's proved he's one of the best quarterbacks in the country, maybe the best," said Neighbors. "And," he added, "I'm sure his dad has helped him, too."

"I've seen a lot of players follow in the footsteps of a famous father or brother or un-

cle and have a lot of pressure," said Fuller. "But I think Wes has a lot of pride in Billy having been a great player here and he hasn't let it affect him. He's just tried to do the best he could. As a result, he's not the son of a former player; he's a player."

Wes actually met Coach Shula before he met Mike. Billy's pro career included a stop in Miami and in 1980 the Dolphins had a reunion of all former players. The entire Neighbors family, including Keith—who was then eight years old—went to the affair. Keith is now a 6-3, 190-pound linebacker who will be a junior at Huntsville next fall. "He will strike you," said Wes. "He goes by 'Hit 'em in the throat and if they get up hit 'em harder the next time,'" said Wes. "He got his first recruiting letter the other day. It was from Auburn."

But Keith has indicated he's following in the same footsteps as Wes. "When we were in Miami, Alabama was playing Notre Dame on television and Notre Dame won 7-0. Keith got so upset he started throwing things around the room. Mom had to settle him down."

Basketball Looks Nationwide

by Kirk McNair

With one player signed and another committed from in the state, Bama coaches look far and wide

Alabama's basketball program has lived—and lived very well for the most part—over the past 15 year primarily with home-grown talent. However, it has become increasingly difficult for Alabama to grab all the best of the prep stars from within the state; and a relatively small population state as Alabama produces a limited number of college prospects.

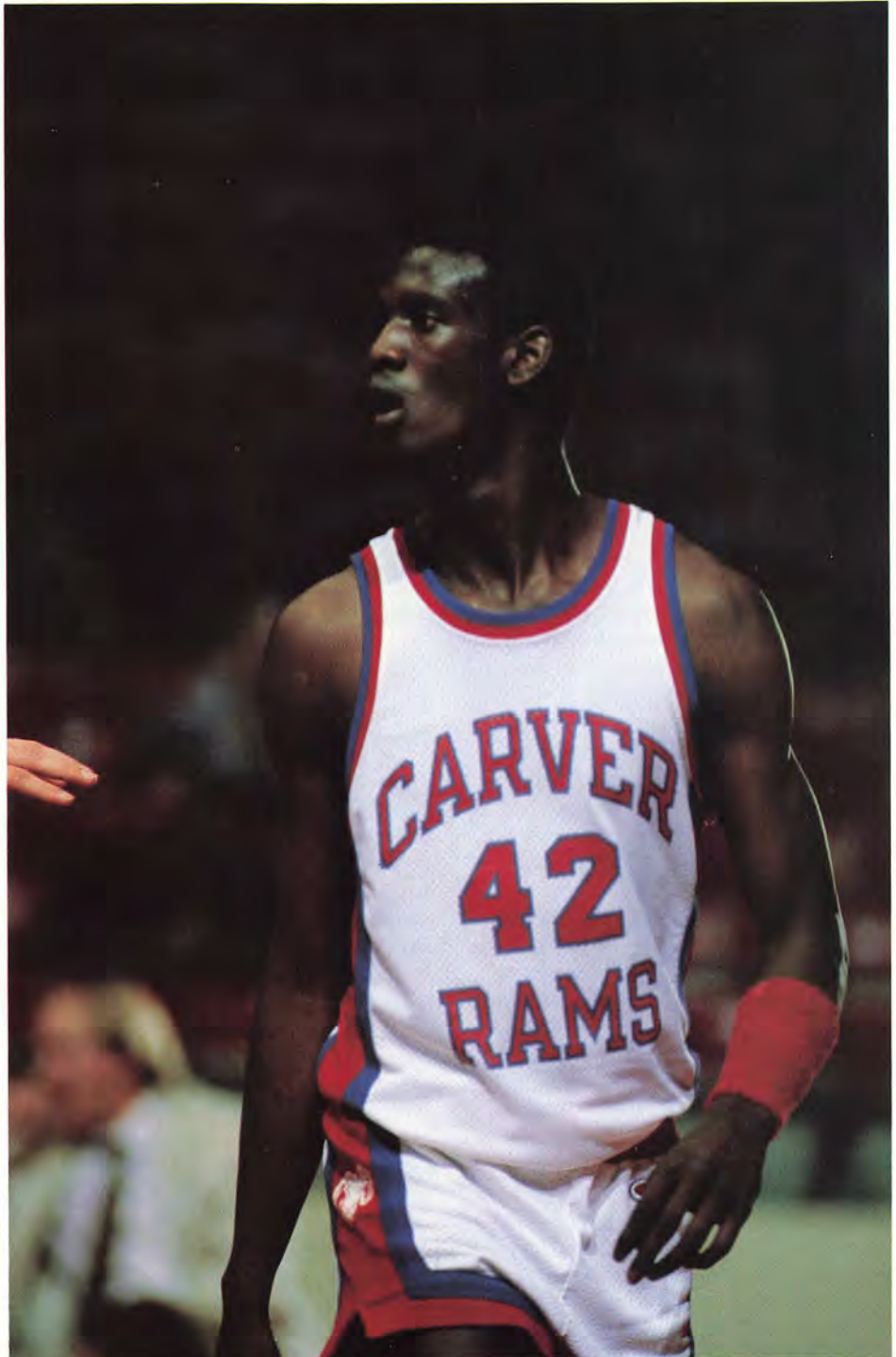
Prior to this season the general consensus was that there were three or four major college prospects in Alabama. Two of them—Larry Rembert of Orrville Keith and Alan Ogg of Gardendale—selected Alabama-Birmingham. A third, Peter Chilcutt of Tuscaloosa Academy, opted for North Carolina. Another, Rodney Steavens of Selma Southside, has not had good reviews through the course of this season even though he earned all-state honors.

However, Alabama did pick out a couple of state players it thinks can play Southeastern Conference basketball, Michael Dizaar of Birmingham Carver, who signed in the early period last November, and Keith Askins of Athens, who committed to the Tide during this year's state tournament.

The next signing period is April 9 through May 15. NCAA rules prohibit college coaches from commenting on the specifics of recruiting, but Alabama's name is nonetheless being mentioned with a number of prospects nationwide. Here are some of the nation's unsigned basketball players who

Michael Dizaar was Alabama's only basketball signee in the early November signing period, but he's expected to be joined by up to half a dozen new Tiders in the spring signing period beginning April 9.

Barry Fikes Photo



have been listed in various publications as considering—and being considered by—Alabama. This should **not** be taken as absolutely correct. Alabama is undoubtedly after some of these players, almost certainly not involved with some. And it is also very likely that Bama coaches are seeking the services of some not included here.

First of all, an update on the two expected to join Alabama from within the state and a look at another in-state prep player who has emerged as a prospect.

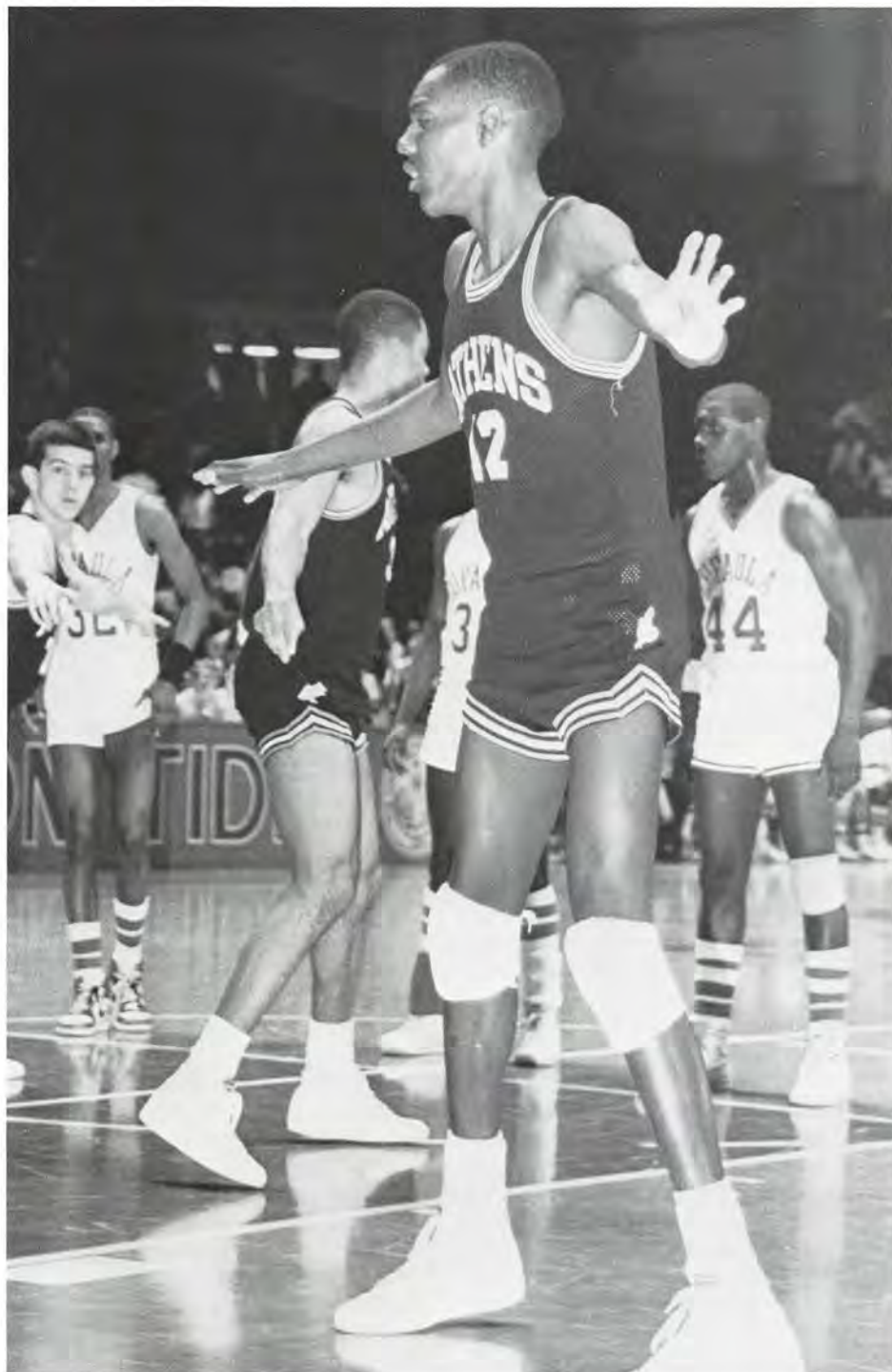
Michael Dizaar was a virtual unknown prior to this season after averaging only six points per game as a junior. However, the 6-7 forward for Coach Steve Jefferson at Birmingham Carver was impressive in early games last fall and Alabama took a chance on him. Dizaar averaged almost 20 points a game through January, then went into something of a late-season slump and finished the year averaging 14 points and eight rebounds per game. He was admittedly foul prone. Dizaar is a borderline case under new NCAA academic requirements. He told the *Tuscaloosa News* he has a 2.0 overall grade point average, but is short one credit. He also needs to score well enough on the standardized tests (ACT or SAT) to be eligible.

Keith Askins was a first team all-state selection for Coach Jerry Todd at Athens High School. The 6-6, 185-pound wing player is an excellent ball handler and medium range shooter who could possibly play the big guard position. Keith began his high school career as a 5-9 point guard. He had an outstanding state tournament, getting 51 points in the two games his team played. He averaged 16 points and 12 rebounds his senior season. Grades are no problem for Askins, who is an A and B student.

Parker Griffith is a 6-0 point guard at Huntsville High School, where he played for former Auburn star Rich Valavicious. The number one prospect at Huntsville prior to the season was thought to be guard John Taft. However, Taft ran into academic difficulties and missed the last part of the season. At that point Griffith was able to demonstrate his abilities. He averaged 12 points and four rebounds per game. Reports link him with Alabama, LSU and Mississippi State.

Alabama's name is being linked with prep stars from coast to coast, specifically from the Carolinas to Los Angeles. Here are some Crimson Tide recruiters are said to be involved with.

Jon Belk is a 6-7, 215-pound forward from Plant City, Florida, which was the sur-



prise team of the Sunshine State this year. Led by Belk's 14.1 points and 10 rebounds per game, Plant City earned a number one ranking before being upset in the regional playoffs. The team was also ranked among the nation's 25 best by *USA Today*. Florida sources say that he is not considering the University of Florida.

Tony Black is a 6-4, 190-pound guard from West Florence, South Carolina, High School. He was named 4A Player of the Year in South Carolina as he averaged 17 points and 10 rebounds per game on a team that was among the state's best. His coach, Tommy Johnson, said "His scoring average could have been higher, but we have a good

team with four players averaging in double figures." He could be either a point guard or wing guard in college. His coach said he had visited South Carolina, Virginia Tech and Southwestern Louisiana and would visit Alabama and either Jacksonville or Miami.

Phillip Craig is a 6-9, 185-pound center for Coach Donald Wayne at Hamburg, Arkansas, High School. On a team with two other big inside men, Craig averaged 14 points and 10 rebounds per game in leading his team into the state playoffs. He is a good student who plans to major in business. He is reportedly considering Wake Forest, Texas and Arkansas State, as well as Alabama.

Troy Garrett is a 6-4, 175-pound guard who averaged 21.8 points per game for Coach Alan Pritchard at Harding Academy in Memphis. The son of former Memphis State and Union University player Darrell Garrett, Troy was fourth in the Memphis area in scoring and first in free throw percentage (86 percent). He was a three-year starter, one of only three players in the last 18 years to start for three years at Harding, and scored 1,407 points in his career despite missing 10 games as a junior with a back injury. He also averaged 8.8 rebounds per game from his wing position. His coach said he had been contacted by Alabama, Ole Miss, Mississippi State and DePaul.

Josh Gilbert is a 6-8 forward at New Iberia, Louisiana, High School. He averaged 17 points, 15 rebounds and six blocked shots as a senior. He has said that he is considering Alabama, LSU, Texas and Southwestern Louisiana.

Steve Henson is a 6-2 point guard at McPherson, Kansas, where he played for his father, Mike Henson. McPherson turned in a 19-2 record this year, losing the opening game to the state's number one team (before avenging that victory and taking over the top ranking), then losing in the state playoffs. Steve, who plans to major in physical education with the thought of coaching one day, averaged 20 points, 6.8 assists and 6 steals per game in earning all-state honors for the third straight year. He is expected to be named Mr. Basketball in Kansas. He hit 83 percent of his free throws, 54 percent from the field. He's also one of the nation's top track and field performers, a two-time Junior Olympic selection in the decathlon. He has high jumped 7-0, vaulted 15-0 and thrown the javelin 212. He plans to continue track and field participation in college. He plans to visit Alabama, has not decided on any other visits. The big competition is Kansas.

Joe Hudson is a 6-3, 177-pound point guard from St. Bernard High School in Los Angeles. He averaged 15 points and six as-



Parker Griffith is a 6-0 guard who took over much of the burden of Huntsville High's team and responded well late this season.

Huntsville Times Photo

sists per game on a team that reached the final four of the CIF (Southern California) playoffs before being eliminated by national power Verbum Dei. He said that Alabama is "one of several schools I am considering." He has a 3.5 grade point average.

Derrick Miller is a 6-6 guard in Savannah, Georgia, who is considered one of the nation's best players. He has already visited Kentucky and Georgetown and is expected to visit Louisville. Miller averaged 24 points (primarily on outside shooting) and nine rebounds per game and is an excellent ball handler.

Kent Millholland grew two inches over the past year and is now 6-10 and 205. He averaged 14 points, 10 rebounds and two blocked shots per game for Coach Richard Rawlings at Waverly Central High School in Tennessee. He is a two-time *Nashville Banner* all-midstate selection. He averaged 14.5 points and 12 rebounds per game as a junior.

Reggie Smith is a 6-4, 175-pound wing guard at Rutherford, South Carolina, High School. He led Coach Stacy Lail's team to a 26-1 record and into the state playoffs with his 19 points and six rebounds per game. He hit 60 percent from the field, but is not a good free throw shooter. He also participates in track and field as a long jumper and high

jumper and runs cross country. His brother, Johnny, is a starting guard for North Carolina State's football team. Reggie, who plans to major in communications, said he is considering Alabama, South Carolina, Virginia Tech and Clemson.

Earl Wise is a 6-6, 190-pound forward from Central High School in Macon, Georgia. Wise averaged 17 points and 10 rebounds per game as a senior.

Alabama has not made it a habit to go into the junior college ranks for players, but a handful of players from the two-year schools have reportedly listed Bama among their choices.

Charles Bledsoe is a 6-7, 210-pound forward from Moberly (Missouri) Area Junior College. He was the second leading scorer (14 points per game) and leading rebounder (10 per game) for Coach Dana Altman's team before suffering a broken navicular while diving after a loose ball in midseason. He was lost for the remainder of the year, including the national junior college championships. He is from St. Louis.

Todd Christian is a 6-6 guard from Hutchison Junior College in Kansas and is a native of Kansas. He's an excellent outside shooter averaging 18 points per game.

Ledell Eackles is a 6-5 wing player for highly-regarded San Jacinto (Texas) Junior College, which went into the national junior college tournament with a 31-0 record and a number two national ranking. He averaged 27.4 points per game, including scoring 36 in a game in which he did not start because of a curfew violation. Alabama, LSU, Arkansas and Houston are the schools he is said to be considering.

Harvey Grant is a 6-9, 205-pound wing player at Independence (Kansas) Junior College. He is a good ball handler and sometimes was used on the point against zone defenses. He is originally from Sparta, Georgia, and is being recruited by Kentucky, West Virginia, DePaul, Kansas and Oklahoma, as well as Alabama, according to his coach, Bob Kizisto. He averaged 23 points, 12.6 rebounds and shot 59 percent from the field, 72 percent from the free throw line.

Additionally, there is a very strong rumor that Alabama will gain the services of a transfer. **Rob Cornegay**, 6-11, 220, of the Queens, New York, attended St. John's out of high school in 1983, but was redshirted. He was academically ineligible in 1984-85, then attended El Camino Junior College in California. He has relatives in Tuscaloosa and in December transferred to Shelton State Junior College in Tuscaloosa. He will be eligible to play next year.

'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/APRIL '86

Hoping To Build On Success

by Lisa Dickerson

National indoors champions anticipate big outdoors season

The arrival of the outdoors track and field season ordinarily brings a big smile to Alabama Head Coach John Mitchell's face. This year his grin is bigger than ever because his women's team is coming off the NCAA Indoor championship. The Bama women upset favorite LSU in Baton Rouge to win the SEC Indoor title, then with a five-woman team took the national championship in Oklahoma City.

Alabama won the national title with Liz Lynch winning the 1,600 and finishing second in the 3,000; Lillie Leatherwood taking second in the 500; Evelyn Adiru finishing second in the 1,000; Pauline Davis taking third in the 55-meter dash; and Flora Hyacinth finishing sixth in the long jump.

"We don't recruit to have an indoor team," said Mitchell, who was named SEC Women's Coach of the Year this season. "We recruit to run outdoors and cross country. With these girls it just happened that we had that particular blend of talent that worked well indoors."

"In the past we've always been a better outdoors team than indoors," he said. "If that holds true again this season—and I see no reason why it shouldn't—we're going to have our best team at Alabama."

Alabama is ranked fourth in a preseason poll conducted by *NCAA News*. "A fourth place ranking is nice after finishing 10th last year without the quality of the athletes we have now," said Mitchell. "But, at the same time" he added, "who cares about being fourth when only the top three teams get trophies. No one will remember who was fourth."

"We have more quality on this squad than in any of the nine years we've fielded a team. I can't even conceive of us failing to be in the top ten at the NCAA. We've got one of the nation's better teams. Without mistakes and/

APRIL '86/BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide



John Mitchell

or injuries a top three national finish and a top two conference finish is realistic."

In 1985, beset by numerous problems, the Crimson Tide fell to a fifth place finish in the SEC, but rallied to take 10th nationally. The most devastating blows last year were an injury to Leatherwood and a determination that Lynch was ineligible until 1986. With Leatherwood healthy and Lynch on board, Mitchell thinks his team has all the ingredients.

"Although our roster is only 19 women deep, we have outstanding individuals who can challenge in their respective events in the conference and score on the national level," said Mitchell.

If the indoors season is any indication, the Alabama record book may be in for considerable updating. Of the 28 school records indoors, 16 were broken this winter.

Leading the way is Lynch, a potential NCAA champion in any of the distance events. Lynch stole the show at the SEC indoors meet setting two new conference records (mile and two mile) and running a leg on the record-setting distance medley relay team. She qualified for five events in the NCAA championships and holds six Alabama records indoors.



Iris Gronfeldt

Leatherwood returns for her third season in the sprints. The 1984 Olympic Gold Medalist is 100 percent healthy as evidenced by her impressive indoors season. She won't be forced to carry the entire load in the sprints, either, as former Olympian Davis of the Bahamas and Virgin Islands Junior National Team member Hyacinth make outdoors debuts in the crimson and white.

Two other 1984 Olympians and All-Americans headline the Crimson Tide returnees this year. Adiru, a sophomore from Uganda who consistently set record after record and finished third in the 1985 NCAA championships in the 800, and Iris Gronfeldt, a senior from Iceland who is the only back-to-back NCAA champion in the javelin, promise to be top point scorers once again.

Also performing for Bama this spring will be distance runners Lisa Pakutka, Claire Townsend, Jeni Nielsen, Susan Crawford and Mindy Lukens; middle distance runner Heidi Olafsdottir; sprinters Veronica Connally and Sherryl White; high jumpers Laura Agront and Jackie Rasenberg; heptathletes Bryndis Holm and Jennifer Poole; and shot put/discus performer Anna Ostberg.

Mitchell is assisted by Wayne Williams and Thrainn Hafsteinsson, the same staff that coaches the Alabama men's team.

Johnson Was High Flyer

by Tommy Deas

This free spirit was a world class competitor

He medalled in the 1972 Olympics, co-held a world record, and set both indoor and outdoor National Collegiate Athletic Association records, but former Alabama pole vaulter Jan Johnson holds some of his fondest memories for achievements of far less magnitude than these.

Johnson was Alabama's first 18-foot pole vaulter, and perhaps the athlete who first put Alabama on the map in collegiate track and field in his two years of competing in 1972 and 1973. Today, in his mid-thirties, Johnson is national promotions manager for the Hind Company in California, which produces athletic wear-including that used by the current Crimson Tide track and field team.

It didn't seem there was much left for Johnson to do in collegiate vaulting when he transferred to Alabama from Kansas in 1971. He followed John Mitchell, the Kansas assistant who had recruited him, when Mitchell landed the head coaching job at Alabama. At the time, Johnson already co-held the world record at 17-7, which he tied as a sophomore at Kansas. He had also amassed titles in the NCAA, United States Track and Field Association, the Amateur Athletic Union, the Big Eight and, while sitting out a year after transferring, the Pan Am Games.

His main goal was the 1972 Olympics, and he boastfully wore a "Munich '72" shirt on occasion, long before the Olympic trials. At Alabama, though, Johnson did find something to match his previous accomplishments.

"One of the most satisfying things I ever did was winning the SEC indoor championship (in 1972)," Johnson says. "Nobody expected us to do that."

It wasn't because of Johnson that no one expected the Tide to challenge perennial conference power Tennessee in that meet held at Montgomery's Garrett Coliseum. He was considered a cinch in the vault, which he won easily at 17-1. He also scored points in

the long jump with his best effort ever in the event, 24-9.

The Alabama team was not as deep as Tennessee's. Though the Tide was able to hang tough with the Vols, it looked bad going into final event, the pole vault, with Tennessee in command.

"We had to go one-two in the vault to win the meet," Johnson recalled. "Tim Hamilton (set a personal record) at 16-9 and came in second and we won. That was the most fun I ever had on the team."

The reason was that Alabama was hardly the track powerhouse that it has gradually grown to be under Mitchell. In fact, it was hardly a contender in the conference before the 1970s, and Johnson was one of the world class athletes who helped ring in the new era.

And with Johnson's list of previous track and field accomplishments, it came as a surprise that he would leave an established program like the one at Kansas to join Mitchell at a fledgling program like Alabama. But Johnson has always been something of a maverick.

"John Mitchell recruited me at KU," Johnson says. "He's a really good vault coach, and I basically asked him if I could transfer. At that point, Alabama had not had that much success in track. In fact, I don't think they had ever scored a point at the NCAAs. Myself and (sprinter) Thomas Whatley were probably the first youngsters to come to Alabama who could compete on that level."

"I pole vaulted and long jumped for the team and I used to run on the 440 relays. They had some fast sprinters who could make up for my weak legs."

It wasn't Johnson's legs that people noticed first, though. It was his hair, which he kept at about shoulder length while competing for the Tide, that drew attention. It was also his outspoken confidence.

"I was pretty radical," Johnson says now with a laugh. "My hair's fashionably short right now, almost bordering on a flattop."

"I've always been flamboyant and excited.

You can take that as being cocky or you can take it that I'm excited. I was excited to be competing on the level that I was. It's no different in sports than it is in business.



Jan Johnson brought a star quality to Alabama track and field competition as he was an NCAA and two-time SEC champion and Olympic qualifier in the pole vault.

University of Alabama Photo

'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/APRIL '86

"It may just be a coincidence, but I've always been on championship teams. In high school we always won the state championship. At KU we always won the Big Eight and did well in the NAAs. At Alabama we won the SEC when nobody thought we could. I think you've got to have people around you that are really up and positive. That's the way I am."

There was no greater test of that than in Munich, where Johnson found that politics and sports are inseparable. The American pole vaulters had been using two new brands of poles which were lighter and had a smaller handle, and the Eastern Bloc nations "decided to give us a little problem" and ruled the poles illegal with their controlling votes.

After all four of the poles Johnson had taken to the Olympics were ruled out, he borrowed decathlete Bruce Jenner's pole from the Olympic village and used it for the preliminaries. "I went to the village," Johnson says, "and I had to take it without even asking. I didn't have a choice." He then used Canadian Kirk Bride's pole for the finals.

"The problem was," Johnson says, "I was jumping with a pole that was about 10 pounds heavier than I'd been used to. I probably placed about up to my level at the time, because I was rated fourth in the world and I got the bronze. I jumped real good for my equipment."

When Johnson got back, though, he learned about real pressure.

"I flew back in from Germany and Coach (Bear) Bryant had invited (Alabama's Olympians) to go to Birmingham for the Duke game at Legion Field," Johnson said. "We got to ride up with the team and stay in the hotel with them and stayed with the team all day."

"We had to go out at halftime and I had to make a speech. I swear I'd never been more nervous in my life. It was the same number of people as the Olympics, but I had to say something to them."

While Johnson took the Olympic bronze medal, the Pan Am Games gold medal, SEC indoor and outdoor titles and the NCAA indoor championship (and record) at Alabama, there is only one record which he holds that will probably stand forever.

That record came off the field. It had nothing to do with pole vaults or long jumps or sprints. Johnson's most unofficial claim to fame at Alabama came in a locker room event known as the Laundry Basket Obstacle

Course Race, where he and partner Angelo Harris finished at an unprecedented 10.0 seconds.

"Nobody could beat me in the laundry basket push because I had the lightest guy on the team," Johnson recalls. "I was smart enough to get the smallest guy so I could push him around faster. I bet they're probably still doing that if they're still in the same locker room."

"That was all Tim Hamilton's idea. He was always having contests. We played Smurf basketball before it was popular, the Frisbee toss, chess when Bobby Fisher was real big. He was always inventing a contest."

Hamilton's offbeat contests come in handy for Johnson in his work now with Hind. In addition to promoting the company's athletic wear, Johnson works almost every afternoon with a national training school for pole vaulters run by Hind. He works with clinics and schools at major colleges across the country. "I really love the event," he says. "I'm still out there trying to promote it."

In working with young pole vault competitors, Johnson doesn't overlook the fun element in his coaching clinics.

"When we do camp, we do a lot of that kind of fun and games stuff," Johnson says. "They're working and they don't realize that they're working."

To keep himself in shape, Johnson also tries to keep things fun. He doesn't go through any rigorous training programs. Instead, he does the things he likes to do.

"I do some surfing, and I'm still in pretty good vaulting shape," Johnson says. "It's really good exercise and it's fun. I've never been able to just go out and run 10 miles. I would much rather play a game of basketball or go surfing or something that's fun."

But just because his days of competing are over, don't get the idea that Johnson only spends his time promoting the event with the young hopefuls. He says he attends the big indoor meets regularly, and has been keeping up with the battle between American vaulter Billy Olsen and Soviet champion Sergei Bubka, who have been taking turns pushing up the world record mark over 19 1/2 feet, a battle that has kept the sport in the spotlight in recent months. Johnson's involvement with the sport has kept him running in the same circles as the world's two best vaulters, and he has had the occasion to dine with them at meets.

"The event is relatively new," Johnson says. "When I was competing, technique was still in its revolutionary stages. I think it will continue to get better and better."

"It's a different sport now."

Mike Dubose

Count on Consistent Comfort, Consistent Value. In Alabama and Coast to Coast.



BIRMINGHAM-Airport ✈
905 11th Court, West
205-324-4510

(11th Court West and Arkadelphia near I-59)

HUNTSVILLE-University ✈
3141 University Drive
205-533-0756

(University Dr. [Hwy. 72] east of Jordan Lane)

HUNTSVILLE-Madison Mall ✈
4870 University Drive
205-830-2070

(University Dr. [Hwy. 72] west of Jordan Lane)

MOBILE
816 Beltline Hwy. South
205-343-4051
(I-65 and Airport Blvd.)

MONTGOMERY
1280 Eastern Bypass
205-271-1620
(I-85 and Eastern Bypass)

TUSCALOOSA
4122 McFarland Blvd. East
205-349-3270
(McFarland Blvd. East and I-20/59)

✈ Airport Courtesy Van Service

TOLL-FREE RESERVATIONS/ INFORMATION

1-800-531-5900
From the U.S. & Canada



© 1986, La Quinta Motor Inns, Inc.

BAMA SCORECARD

Vanderbilt Moved

Alabama's 1986 football schedule has under gone the first of what is expected to be several changes with the move of the Vanderbilt game to September 6. No other date or site changes are expected, but television will almost certainly change some kickoff times.

The game had originally been scheduled for September 27. The game site will continue to be Bryant-Denny Stadium in Tuscaloosa. The game time, currently 1:30 CDT, could be moved if the game is selected for television by the Atlanta SuperStation, WTBS.

Alabama opens its season with Ohio State in the Kickoff Classic in Giants Stadium, East Rutherford, New Jersey, August 27. By playing Vanderbilt 10 days later Bama picks up an open date between the Florida game in Gainesville September 20 and the Notre Dame game in Birmingham October 4.

Tickets

Although recent Alabama concern over tickets centered on the difficulty of getting NCAA basketball tournament pasteboards, it won't be long until football tickets are a matter of discussion. Rarely has a team had the attractive schedule Alabama has in 1986, which means tickets will be an even more difficult proposition than usual. The Alabama athletics business office planned to send out order blanks in early April.

There's a slight change in the order form this year. Buyers are being encouraged to order in either Birmingham or Tuscaloosa (or both) blocks. Buyers ordering a block will have the same seat(s) for each game (except the Auburn game, when Bama has only half the stadium).

The business office plans to fill orders for both blocks first, followed by the Birmingham only or Tuscaloosa only block orders,

with individual game orders getting last priority.

Because Tide opponents do not have extra tickets when Bama comes to town, Alabama is offering away game tickets to only the Kickoff Classic. Those tickets are \$20 each, all home games \$15 each. There is a \$2 postage and handling charge on each order. (For example, an order for four tickets to all four Birmingham games or all four Tuscaloosa games would be \$242, four seats for all home games would be \$482, and four seats for all home games plus four tickets to the Kickoff Classic would be \$562.)

Anyone wishing to order tickets should write Athletics Business Office, P.O. Box U, University, AL 35486.

Wimp In Demand

Wimp Sanderson leave Alabama? He's been at The Capstone almost since before Denny Chimes, or so it seems. Twenty years as assistant basketball coach and six very successful seasons as head basketball coach (127-61 record, five straight NCAA appearances, three times reaching the Sweet 16) have put him in demand.

Late this season his name was linked with Florida State. Nothing to it. Then it was South Carolina. And something was brewing. The Gamecocks received permission to interview Sanderson and talked to him March 22.

No one was saying anything following the interview. Sanderson has four years remaining on a good contract at Alabama (although not as good as rumors of the South Carolina offer).

Overachievers

It should come as a surprise to almost no one who follows Alabama basketball that the 1985-86 team was one which overachieved. There are firm statistics to show Bama's

1986 Alabama Football Schedule

(Subject To Change)

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Aug. 27	Ohio State	East Rutherford, N.J.	8:00 EDT
Sept. 6	Vanderbilt	Tuscaloosa	1:30 CDT
Sept. 13	Southern Miss	Birmingham	1:30 CDT
Sept. 20	Florida	Gainesville	1:30 EDT
Oct. 4	Notre Dame	Birmingham	1:30 CDT
Oct. 11	Memphis State (HC)	Tuscaloosa	1:30 CDT
Oct. 18	Tennessee	Knoxville	1:30 EDT
Oct. 25	Penn State	Tuscaloosa	1:30 CDT
Nov. 1	Mississippi State	Starkville	1:30 CST
Nov. 8	LSU	Birmingham	1:30 CST
Nov. 15	Temple	Tuscaloosa	1:30 CST
Nov. 29	Auburn	Birmingham	1:30 CST

Southeastern Conference performance exceeded its potential, according to a pre-college rating of the players.

A recent issue of *Tiger Rag*, a publication devoted to LSU athletics, released a listing of the talent level of each team in the SEC. The method in which this "talent level" was determined was a formula applied to the lists of the Top 100 high school prospects in the country as compiled by Bob Gibbons' All-Star Sports ratings from 1982-85.

The top 100 high school players from the past four years were divided into 10 groups. A player falling in the top ten recruits in the nation during his senior year was worth ten points. A player in the second group (11-20) was given nine points, and so on until the last ten players, ranked 91-100 in the nation, were given one point. No fifth year seniors were included in the study. The primary assumption in this study was that there is some merit to those recruiting rankings.

Schools were ranked according to total points and also by the number of players ranked. It's easy to see that Kentucky's championship was no fluke, while the figures also show Alabama doing much better than should have been expected.

Rank/Team	Players /Points	Actual Finish
1. Kentucky	10/78	1. Kentucky
2. Auburn	7/57	2. (tie) ALABAMA
3. Georgia	6/30	2. (tie) Auburn
4. LSU	4/24	4. Florida
5. Tennessee	5/16	5. (tie) LSU
6. ALABAMA	2/14	5. (tie) Georgia
7. Florida	2/8	7. Vanderbilt
8. Ole Miss	1/2	8. Tennessee
9. Miss. State	0/0	9. Ole Miss
10. Vanderbilt	0/0	10. Miss. State

Buck Honored

Although Kentucky's Kenny Walker was generally the most honored basketball player in the Southeastern Conference this season, *Gator Bait*, a publication covering University of Florida athletics, named Alabama's Buck Johnson as the SEC Player of the Year. Johnson, of course, had more impressive statistics than Walker in scoring, rebounding, blocked shots, field goal percentage and free throw percentage. Walker was the best player on the league's championship team.

Joining Johnson on the first team were Walker, Auburn's Chuck Person, Tennessee's Tony White and Florida's Andrew Moten. Derrick McKey and Terry Coner were named to the second team.

Benny Dees, former Tide assistant coach who is now head coach at the University of New Orleans, reported a conversation with Marty Blake, the superscout of college talent for the National Basketball Association.

APRIL '86/BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide

"Marty brought up Buck Johnson and said he considered him a can't miss prospect, comparing him to James Worthy (former North Carolina star now playing for the Los Angeles Lakers)," said Dees. "He said Buck will go real, real high in the draft."

Bernie Moore Standings

With the spring sports still to be decided, Alabama and Tennessee—the teams that have dominated all-sports competition in the Southeastern Conference—are tied for the lead for the Bernie Moore Trophy. The trophy was first awarded in 1974. Alabama took the title in 1974, 1976, 1977 and 1983 and tied with Tennessee in 1982. The Vols have three outright titles plus the 1982 tie, while Auburn has taken the title twice, LSU and Georgia (last year's winner) once each.

The all-sports champion is determined by awarding 10 points for a first place finish, nine for a second, etc. in football, basketball, swimming, tennis, golf, baseball and track and field. Track and field points are divided with outdoors competition counting 50 percent of the total, indoors and cross country 25 percent each. Thus far football, basketball, swimming and the indoors and cross country portions of track have been completed.

Alabama and Tennessee currently have 26 1/2 points each, followed by Auburn with 25, LSU 23 1/2, Florida (which was heavily penalized by being awarded no points in football because of probation) 20 1/2, Georgia 19 1/2, Kentucky 17 1/2, Vanderbilt 10 1/2, Ole Miss 7 1/2 and Mississippi State 3 1/2.

Alabama was third in last year's competition.

Women Tenth

Alabama's women's swimming and diving team finished tied for 10th place (with LSU) in this year's NCAA championships at Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Katrine Bornstad set school records in both the 200 and 400 individual medleys in earning All-America honors. Also making All-America were Laurence Bensimon in the 500, Charlotte Brock in the 100 breaststroke, and Carmel Clark, Carole Brook, Anita Harrison, Beth Gardner, Lisa McClain, Jennifer Kirrstetter, Pernille Nimb and Brock on Bama's 400 and 800 freestyle and 400 medley relay teams.

Hershiser Update

The news is not encouraging for Alabama's righthanded pitcher Gordie Hershiser. In early March the Bama junior made a trip to Vero Beach, Florida. There he got to meet his family's newest millionaire, brother Orel who pitches for the Los Angeles Dodgers, and also to be examined by Dodgers'

team doctor Frank Jobe. Hershiser suffered ligament damage to his elbow last year and underwent ligament transplant surgery. He began workouts during the winter, but suffered pain while warming up for a practice game February 2. Dr. Jobe told him his arm was "tight" and as "solid" as any he had seen following surgery. Hershiser had expected to return to the Tide lineup in mid-March. However, Bama Head Baseball Coach Barry Shollenberger said that Hershiser is behind schedule and the best that can be said about a return date is that it is "indefinite."

Baseball Commitment

Hunter Plott of Tuscaloosa Academy has committed to sign a baseball national letter-of-intent with Alabama. Plott, a catcher, was also his team's football quarterback and a starting forward on the basketball team.

Gymnasts Impressive

Alabama's gymnastics team is tuning up for the NCAA Regional Championships in Baton Rouge April 5 with an eye on the NCAA Championships at Gainesville April 18-19.

Coach Sarah Patterson's team had its most impressive meet of the year in the Arizona State Invitational. Although the host team, ranked second in the nation, won the event with 189.20 points, fourth-rated Bama was right behind with its season-best mark, 186.05. Fifth-ranked Florida, number 12 Penn State and seventh-rated Cal State-Fullerton trailed the Tide. Penney Hauschild, defending NCAA all-around champion, had her best meet of the year, finishing third all-around (the only performer not from Arizona State placing in the top five).

The Tiders later added an impressive road win over Florida, then set a school record (188.55 points) in a home win over LSU and North Carolina.

Strong Opening

Alabama's track and field teams were impressive in an opening nonscoreing meet, the Domino Invitational in Tallahassee, Florida. Both men and women javelin throwers, two-time NCAA champion Iris Gronfeldt, and Siggie Einarrson (who threw 249-11) qualified for the NCAA championships.

Other Bama winners were Evelyn Adiru in the 800, Laura Agront in the triple jump, Heidi Olafsdottir in the 1500 and the 4x100 and distance medley relay teams for the women and Keith Talley in the low hurdles, Dudson Higgins in the triple jump, Gunnar Ageskar in the pole vault, Eggert Bogason in the discus, and the 4x100 and 4x1500 relay teams for the men.



Sharp Printing. Sharp Pencil.

Quality printing. Knowledgeable salespeople. Capable customer service reps. Talented craftsmen. State-of-the-art equipment. Dependable delivery. A genuine interest in your project and your success.

You'd expect the price to be high—but we realize the lower the price, the higher the value for our customers. So we've spent a small fortune keeping our pricing pencils sharp.

Why not call EBSCO Media to discuss your next printing job. It could be an even sharper move for you. And your budget.



EBSCO MEDIA

801 5th Avenue South
Birmingham, Alabama 35233

205-323-1508



ALABAMA'S SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULES

Baseball

15	Faulkner 0
22	Western Kentucky 5
12	Western Kentucky 13
8	Western Kentucky 5
8	@ Jackson State 6
5	@ Southern Miss 6
11	@ Tennessee 4
7	@ Tennessee 4
2	@ Tennessee 3
14	Ferris State 13
9	Samford 6
3	Florida 2
1	Florida 6
4	Florida 11
9	@ UNLV 10
9	@ UNLV 3
20	@ UNLV 13
14	@ Kentucky 12
19	@ Kentucky 7
8	@ Kentucky 5
8	Kentucky 2
March 19	Kentucky, rained out
16	Middle Tennessee 18
5	LSU 6
6	LSU 8
5	LSU 4
March 25	Jackson State
March 26	Jackson State
March 29	Shelton State
April 1	@ Alabama-Birmingham
April 2	Southern Miss
April 5	Georgia (2)
April 6	Georgia
April 7	Birmingham Barons (exhibition)
April 8-9	@ South Alabama Tourney
	(South Alabama, Alabama, Auburn, Miami)
April 12	@ Vanderbilt (2)
April 13	@ Vanderbilt
April 15	North Alabama
April 16	Alabama-Birmingham
April 19	Auburn (2)
April 20	Auburn
April 26	@ Ole Miss (2)
April 27	@ Ole Miss
April 29	South Alabama
April 30	South Alabama
May 1	Auburn @ Dothan
May 3	Mississippi State (2)
May 4	Mississippi State
May 6	Auburn @ Huntsville

Men's Track

March 22	Domino Classic
	@ Tallahassee
March 29	Alabama Invitational
April 5	Semotom Relays
	@ Cape Girardeau, Missouri
April 12	Cajun Classic
	@ Lafayette, Louisiana
April 19	@ Mississippi State Invitational
April 26	Drake Relays
	@ Des Moines, Iowa
April 26	Springtime Invitational
	@ Tallahassee, Florida
May 3	L.S.U. Invitational
	@ Baton Rouge
May 16 & 17	SEC Championships
	@ Knoxville
June 6 & 7	NCAA @ Indianapolis

Men's Tennis

7	Mississippi State 2
3	@ TCU 6
	@ Corpus Christi Invitational
6	Arkansas-Little Rock 0
2	SMU 7
4	Southwest Louisiana 5
1	Kentucky 5
6	Houston 1
	Murray State 1
	Wake Forest 5
	Memphis State 3
	Florida State 2
	SW Louisiana 5
	Louisville 3
March 27-30	Blue-Gray Tournament
	@ Montgomery
	@ Mississippi
	Florida
	Alabama-Birmingham
	@ LSU
	@ Northeast Louisiana
	Vanderbilt
	Kentucky
	Louisiana Tech
	@ Auburn
	@ Tennessee
	@ Mississippi State
	Georgia
May 3	SEC Championships @ Auburn
May 9-11	NCAA @ Athens, Georgia
May 16-25	
April 3	
April 6	
April 9	
April 12	
April 13	
April 17	
April 19	
April 20	
April 22	
April 26	
May 1	

Women's Tennis

8	North Florida 1 @ Birmingham (UAB)
7	@ Alabama-Birmingham 2
1	LSU 8
3	Mississippi 6
6	Auburn 3
3	Florida State 6
0	Florida 9
8	Santa Fe 1
	Hilton Head Springfest
	Boston College 0
	Syracuse 5
	Pennsylvania 4
	Virginia 4
	James Madison 6
March 21	Tulane, cancelled
March 22	Arkansas, cancelled
March 26	@ Georgia
March 28	Kentucky
April 4-6	Lady Cougar Invitational
	@ Houston
April 11	@ Tennessee
April 12	@ Vanderbilt
April 16	@ Mississippi State
April 19	Louisiana Tech
April 24-27	SEC Championships
	@ Athens, Ga.

Men's Golf

Feb. 14-16	Florida Invitational @ Gainesville
	(13th of 20 teams)
Feb. 21-23	Seminole Classic
	@ Tallahassee, Florida
March 15-17	Cajun Southwestern
	@ Lafayette, Louisiana
March 28-30	Southeastern Invitational
	@ Montgomery
April 12-13	Alabama Intercollegiate
	@ Tuscaloosa
April 18-20	Jerry Pate Intercollegiate
@ Pensacola, Florida	April 25-27 Chris
	Schenkel Invitational
	@ Statesboro, Ga.
May 16-18	SEC Championships
	@ Florence, Alabama
June 12-16	NCAA @ Winston-Salem, N.C.

Women's Golf

Feb 21-23	Lady Gator
	@ Gainesville, Fla.
Feb 28-March 2	@ LSU Invitational
March 7-9	Hudson Invitational
	@ Eufaula, Ala.
March 28-30	South Carolina Invitational
	@ Columbia
April 4-6	Duke Invitational
	@ Durham, NC
April 25-27	Southern Intercollegiate
	@ Athens, Ga.
May 2-4	SEC Championships
	@ Callaway Gardens, Ga.

Women's Track

March 22	Domino Classic
	@ Tallahassee
March 29	Alabama Invitational
April 5	Semotom Relays
	@ Cape Girardeau, Missouri
April 12	Cajun Classic
	@ Lafayette, Louisiana
April 19	@ Mississippi State Invitational
April 26	Drake Relays
	@ Des Moines, Iowa
April 26	Springtime Invitational
	@ Tallahassee, Florida
May 3	L.S.U. Invitational
	@ Baton Rouge
May 16 & 17	SEC Championships
	@ Knoxville
June 6 & 7	NCAA @ Indianapolis

Charles Joins Tide Staff

University of Alabama Athletics Director Ray Perkins has announced the Crimson Tide's first royal appointment. Charles Philip Arthur George, Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, Duke of Cornwall, Duke of Rothesay, Earl of Carrick and Baron of Renfrow, Lord of the Isles, Great Steward of Scotland and husband of Lady Di, is Bama's new polo coach. Alabama is expected to field its first polo team for the 1986-87 season.

"We didn't really start out to have a polo team," explained Perkins. "Jimmy Carroll (Alabama's assistant athletics director) told me that he was descended from British royalty, that his great-great-something-or-other grandfather had been a close relative of King James (hence, his name, Jimmy) before his family immigrated to Enterprise, Alabama. Jimmy proposed that we send him to Palm Beach during the winter polo season. He would be able to spend some time in Florida with Prince Charles and, as a close relative, would probably be able to get Prince Charles to make a big donation to the athletics department scholarship fund.

"I really didn't plan to be involved. However, Jim Fuller and Jim Goostree heard about Carroll's plan, and they also claimed to be related through King James to Prince Charles and said they should also make the trek to Palm Beach. Then George Henshaw pointed out that he was probably related to King George and Henry 'Sang' Lyda was sure that he must be related to King Henry because no one would name a baby Henry unless it was an ancient family name. Sylvester Croom tried to get in on the act, but try as he might he couldn't find a King Sylvester in British history. Wimp Sanderson and Clem Gryska came up short, too.

"I finally decided that if we sent all of our blue bloods to Palm Beach for the polo matches no matter how much Prince Charles donated, we'd probably come out on the short end of the mallet. I could see that it was going to be a royal pain selecting our aristocratic delegate."

Tough decisions have to be made by athletics directors, so Perkins bit the bullet and went to Palm Beach himself to solicit the donation. Perkins admitted that he didn't know what to expect when he met Charles, but was very pleased. "He is a prince of a fellow," said Perkins. "I think the fact that I am not descended from a King of England like all those guys on our staff may have been an advantage in that we didn't spend a lot of time talking about our families and stuff."



Prince Charles already has an impressive list of titles and may one day be King of England, but for now he is expected to be best known as Alabama Head Polo Coach Charles Windsor beginning April 1.

Photo Courtesy Huntsville Times

They also didn't spend a lot of time talking about donations. "I was surprised," said Perkins, "but it turns out that the pound is so devalued that the Royal Family is just barely making ends meet. In fact, Prince Charles said that he was thinking about taking another job, or at least getting parttime work, to supplement his allowance."

Unfortunately, Perkins said, Prince Charles had been unable to find any prince openings that were as good as the one he already has. The decline in oil prices has turned Middle Eastern princing into no better than a middle class occupation. "He really couldn't think of any options he had other than going back into the Navy, and he didn't want to do that because it would mean leaving Di and the kids home alone for so long," said Perkins.

"Because I'm a football coach we started talking about sports. Charles impressed me with his knowledge of polo. Before long we were discussing the possibilities of Alabama fielding a team," Perkins added. "There are a lot of things I like about it. For one, most of the polo players in this country—or at least the ones in Alabama, where we plan to concentrate our recruiting efforts—can afford to come to school on their own, so we wouldn't

have to tie up a lot of money in scholarships. By the same token, most polo fans are pretty well off and don't mind paying up to \$20 for a ticket to see a match. That compares to only about \$15 for a football ticket. For another, there is no season on polo. Matches are played all year long. That means we could have several dozen matches with tickets at \$20 a head, making polo a big money maker for the athletics department. Plus, we've already made a pretty good horseshoe deal."

Perkins and the Prince put a pencil to it and struck a deal. Coach Windsor, as Bama polo players will refer to him, and Lady Di plan to live on the Perkins farm in Samanthia, where the Alabama Polo Stables will be located and where she hopes to be active in Junior League.

Alabama does not currently have a polo field in its athletics complex, but Perkins does not view that as a major problem. "You can play in just about any field and we've got plenty of those around. There's also indoors polo and we can use the new indoor practice football field for polo matches when we're not having football practice in there."

Perkins thinks Alabamians will take quickly to polo because of its resemblance to football. "It's played on a field, it's fast, there's a lot of contact, the object is to get the ball between the uprights at each end of the field, and you've got to have some horses to win," he pointed out.

Although Coach Windsor would not predict immediate Alabama polo success, he did smile slyly and note "Princess Diana and I look forward with great anticipation to 'Let's have a party tonight! Haw, Haw!'"

Prince Charles will work under the same general contract as all other Alabama athletics department employees (subject to him being able to get a green card) with two exceptions. One, if he becomes King of England he will be released immediately from all Crimson Tide polo coaching responsibilities. "It's always been our policy here that if a guy can do better we wish him the best in his new job," said Perkins. "We plan to have the best young volunteer polo coach we can find and if we lose Prince Charles we'll be able to move the new man smoothly into the head job." The other exception is that instead of having July 4, American Independence Day, as a holiday, Coach Windsor has asked to be off on April 1, a British holiday known as All Fool's Day, and also celebrated in this country as April Fool's Day. —Kirk McNair
'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/APRIL '86

Keep Up With The Tide!

**'BAMA is the
authority!
Subscribe Today!**

**PLEASE SEND ME
ONE YEAR (30 ISSUES)
OF 'BAMA
FOR ONLY \$30.00**

**10 Magazines August-May
20 Newsletters August-May**

Total amt. enclosed _____ for _____ subscriptions
Alabama residents add 4% (\$1.00) sales tax each subscription.

☐ Payment Enclosed ☐ Mastercharge ☐ Visa

Bank Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

PLEASE PRINT

TO: _____
Name

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Gift To: _____
Name

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Gift From: _____
Name

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make Check Payable To: **'BAMA Magazine**
P.O. Box 6104

Overseas Add \$5.00 University, Alabama 35486

FOR OFFICE USE

B	S	P/C	F	L	CH
	300				

Now Preselling Phase II. Special Financing Available.



To Fully Experience College, Experience Riverbend Commons.

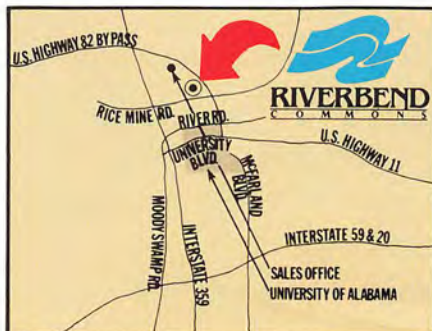
Just one-and-a-half miles from the heart of the Alabama campus, Riverbend is the place you wish was there when you were a student.

If you have a student on campus or starting next year, let us introduce you to Riverbend Commons. Offered by The H.D. Jackson Company—one of the nation's leading student condominium developer/managers, Riverbend is a modern condominium community with all the comforts of home. Plus clubhouse, tennis facilities, swimming pool, on-site management and scheduled shuttle service to and from campus.

Each unit is designed to accommodate your student and rent-paying roommates as well. The condominiums are also designed to pay their own way and to offer the many tax advantages of ownership and expected appreciation.

Each one and two-bedroom unit includes: ■ All furnishings- including linens and utensils; ■ Ultra-modern kitchen featuring high-grade cabinets, stove, refrigerator with ice-maker, dishwasher and disposal; ■ Washer and dryer; ■ Wall-to-wall carpeting; ■ High-efficiency central heating and air conditioning; ■ Smoke and fire alarm; ■ Deadbolt lock and security viewer; ■ On-site maintenance and management.

In short, Riverbend Commons is a place Alabama students can experience it. Privacy. Comfort. Fun. Security. In a serious student environment.



Call collect or come by for
information on owning or renting
at Riverbend Commons.

(205) 349-3911-Sales

(205) 349-3913-Rentals

150 Rice Mine Road

Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35406



**The very heart of
saving is a Good Cents
Condominium.**

**The University of Alabama Experience—
Experience Riverbend Commons.**